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## Buddhist treasures

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# Gain from pain



Where there is crisis, there is opportunity. The global economic recession has dramatically transformed the patterns of buying and selling art.

Before ShContemporary opened, the fair director was worried about a low turnout. But the event ended up attracting even more gallery and museum representatives.

The secret lay in the organizers' adaptability. They strengthened their networking and services - a contribution to energizing the country's developing contemporary art market.

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# Beijing to strengthen water pollution control

By Jin Zhu

The Beijing government is taking steps to ensure its water's cleanliness and steady supply.

According to a draft regulation on the prevention and control of water pollution, issued by the Office of Legislative Affairs on September 14, a maximum fine of 100,000 yuan will be imposed on those who use running water or under ground water for scenic purposes.

The draft regulation stipulates water distributors should give priority to residential water

supplies. As for where to obtain water while protecting the city's ecology and environment, rainwater and recycled water are the first choices. Meanwhile, the amount of water used for industry and agriculture should be gradually reduced.

"The city is facing a severe situation of water scarcity," said Zhou Jidong, director of the Office of Legislative Affairs. "But at the same time, waste still exists since water resources were not graded according to quality."

At present, a great amount

of good quality ground water has been widely used for agriculture and landscaping. However, these fields do not require high water quality. Differentiating between water quality to determine which should be used for the fields and which for homes is necessary, Zhou said.

The regulation also plans to set up a compensation system among district and county governments along the rivers.

"The city is extremely short on water, but with years of drought, it is all the more dif-

ficult to supply freshwater to the rivers," said Liu Xiaochen, deputy director of the Standing Committee of Beijing Municipal People's Congress. "Currently, most of the rivers have no capacity for pollutants, and the quality of water has seen no obvious improvement."

Among 82 rivers in the city, 44.1 percent of a 2,020-kilometer stretch of waterway has been given the grade of four or five – meaning they are unsuitable for drinking.

Zhou said the results from test sites, including the provinces

of Shandong, Jiangsu, Liaoning and Hebei, show that a good way to solve the problems of transboundary pollution is to examine the water quality at the intersection of districts.

"When the water quality does not reach a certain standard, the government located upstream has to compensate for the government downstream," he said. "And there can be no more excuses or shifting of responsibility in protecting water quality, since the water will have been tested before entering certain areas."

## Charitable progress is great but still lags behind



China's charity work still lags far behind that of many Western countries.

CFP Photo

By Zhao Hongyi

Total donations to charities in China last year reached 107 billion yuan, three and a half times the amount from 2007, with individual donations accounting for a higher total than institutional donations, according to a recent report from the Chinese Academy of Social Science, the biggest think tank and research institute in the country.

The results were published in the *Development Report on Chinese Charity (2009)*, the first nationwide appraisal of the country's charitable contributions.

"Individual donation amounts to 45.8 billion yuan, nearly 54 percent of the total," the report said. "The average individual contribution is 34.66 yuan, a 14-fold increase from 2.5 yuan in 2007."

According to a survey con-

ducted by the Ministry of Civil Affairs in Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu, Chongqing and Xi'an, 90 percent of respondents said they have made contributions to areas hurt by natural disasters. In the think tank's survey, 96.5 percent said they have done the same. The report also says government bodies, affiliates and independent social entities make donations on a regular basis.

Compared with the US, however, China still lags far behind. In 2007, total donations made in the US was \$306.4 billion, or 2.2 percent of the country's GDP, while in China the amount was only 30.9 billion yuan, or 0.013 percent of China's GDP, according to the report. In 2008, the figure merely increased to 0.36 percent.

"We still have a long way to go in terms of total charita-

ble donations, the credibility of charities, integration and individual interest," the report said. "More importantly, we lack the relevant laws, principles, standards and guidance."

By 2008, China had 414,000 registered social entities and private nonprofit organizations.

The report believes these newly emerged charitable organizations are the major catalyst behind the improvement of social welfare in China.

"It's time to incubate and encourage this sector's development, for the majority of the population lacks sufficient support," the report said.

The report's publisher believes their work will help the institute win public recognition and develop, thereby accelerating the progress of charities, which is an "urgent" need in China.

## Beijing birth defects on the rise

By Han Manman

The number of birth defects in Beijing is rising rapidly, almost doubling over the past decade, the city's health bureau said. It is part of a disturbing trend, as other cities and provinces have also seen sharp increases in congenital diseases.

The capital's rate of birth defects last year was 170 per 10,000 births, nearly twice the rate of 90 per 10,000 in 1997, the Beijing Municipal Health Bureau announced.

The leading birth defects include heart disease, deformation of fingers and toes, cleft palate, and neurological problems.

Ren Aiguo, head of the reproductive health institute at Peking University, said the main reason for the increased numbers was better diagnostic techniques in the city, which meant more cases were recorded than before. Other factors include more older women having children and a change in diet from vegetables to more processed food.

However, Ren denied some media reports saying the high rate of defects was caused by pollution. He said there was no evidence that pollution was behind the increased number of birth defects in Beijing.

In 2003, authorities cancelled mandatory premarital health checkups in order to protect the privacy of newlyweds, which some experts believe is another cause,

*Caijing Magazine* reported.

The most common birth defects in Beijing's Shunyi district include congenital heart disease, excessive numbers of fingers or toes, cleft lip or palate, and neural tube defects, said Wang Haiying, an officer with the family planning and reproductive health service center in the district.

Beijing is not the only place facing this problem, as similar statistics can be found in Guangdong, Zhejiang, Jiangxi and Hunan provinces.

In rural areas, where the percentage of birth defects is much higher than in Beijing, the problems have also been blamed on a lack of folic acid in the diet, which can cause neural tube defects that can damage the baby's spine and brain.

Other risk factors include obesity, alcohol, smoking and infections.

China has a high rate of birth defects, affecting 4 to 6 percent of newborns nationwide. Around 800,000 to 1.2 million babies are born with deformities, the health bureau said on its Web site. In the US, the figure is around 3 percent.

Every year more than 7.9 million children worldwide, or 6 percent of total births, are born with defects due to genetic or environmental causes, according to the World Health Organization. The most common are congenital heart defects, neural tube defects and Down's syndrome.



More older women having children may be a reason behind an increase in birth defects, some experts say.

IC Photo



# Guerrilla sport – for now

## Chinese rugby players hope for inclusion in Olympic Games



Many believe that the IOC's potential decision to include rugby will bring a drastic change in the country's current situation.

CFP Photos

By Huang Daohen

"Wow, we have a national team for rugby?"

That is a question that often bugs Zheng Hongjun, godfather of China's rugby and the country's Women's Sevens coach.

Indeed, few people would have noticed the national rugby team if not for next month's decision on the inclusion of rugby sevens in the Olympics. Without government support and public attention, Zheng said they used to be like guerrillas; now they have been given a chance to be legitimate.

### Olympic inclusion brings hope

On October 9, the fate of rugby sevens will be known and its inclusion in the Olympic Games will be decided, when the 106 members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) meet in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Following the IOC's decision to recommend sevens, along with golf, for inclusion as of 2016 as an Olympic sport, many people have dreamed what the decision could mean for the sport in their country.

But few people will be fretting over the decision as much as the pioneers who have presided over the sport in China for the last two decades. Zheng Hongjun is among them.

Zheng, 53, known as the godfather of rugby in the country, is also a PE teacher at China Agricultural University. The school is the heart and soul of rugby in China, providing the national team with an annual grant of 500,000 yuan.

Zheng said though his women's team is a national team, it has not yet received financial support from the government because rugby is not an official Olympic sport. Along with a few small sponsors, Zheng and his staff have run the sport on a shoestring since 1990.

But things may change now. Inclusion in the Olympics would open the doors to funding from all areas, including the government, Zheng said.

China joined the International Rugby Board (IRB) in 1996 but has recently focused almost exclusively on sevens. This will continue to happen if it becomes an Olympic sport, but it has always had the backing of Zheng.

"It was difficult at the beginning. This was a brand new sport in China," he recalled. "People said all kinds of negative things. But I had faith in rugby. It was so exciting I thought it would definitely have good prospects."

"It's less expensive, more befitting Chi-



Zheng Hongjun believes rugby can become big in China.

nese people's speed, mobility and relatively smaller body size," he added. "And, significantly, it is an Asian Games event."

### Top women in Asia

With the efforts of the band of enthusiasts like Zheng, China has indeed shown what it can achieve. Recently, Zheng's women beat Brazil 10-7 in the third-place game in the inaugural women's Rugby World Cup Sevens, winning the "Bowl." This is a remarkable accomplishment, but the team is no stranger to success: it won the Asian Women's Sevens Championships earlier this year and was a runner-up at the Hong Kong Women's Rugby Sevens.

However, none of the players in the top women's team in Asia played rugby before starting university, Zheng said. All of the girls are students at China Agricultural University and they are also all members of the 15-a-side national team.

"Contrary to the level of skill displayed by these ladies, they only compete in domes-

tic sevens competitions once or twice a year, which means they have to train by themselves most of the time," Zheng said.

Zheng's girls also have to challenge traditional ideas of femininity. "Everyone thinks (rugby) is weird for women to play because it requires a tough and muscular body," said 25-year-old Bai Ying, one of the team members. "People feel like, 'Wow, why have you made yourself so big? How ugly!' but healthy is also beautiful."

"Nowadays people are increasingly open, so they will slowly get used to the sport."

### Rugby in China

Rugby has a small following in China, limited to just a few universities and the army. It does not even have its own name; it is called "olive ball game," the same as American football.

Zheng estimates that there are at most 300 Chinese rugby players at the moment.

But thanks to the country's obsession with Olympic success, Zheng said a vote from the IOC to add sevens to the 2016 Games would transform rugby in China.

Rugby would immediately attract government funding and, more importantly, become a sport at China's quadrennial National Games, which in turn could lead to the establishment of teams in many of the country's 31 provinces and regions.

"If rugby manages to get into the Olympics, there will inevitably be great development in China," Zheng said. "The state will pay more attention to it, so rugby can enjoy a quick expansion all over the country, as sports schools' provincial teams will be launched one after another."

Besides, we will eventually see professional players being produced by the state sports apparatus, he added.

"I think rugby can become big in our country," Zheng said. "I think rugby sevens should be included in the Olympics because, for us in China especially, it would encourage people to play, especially youngsters. The chance to have rugby in the Olympics will produce a boom in rugby."

## Dialogue

Rugby's bid for the 2016 Olympics is pending, but Ma Xiaomeng, an expert who works for a rugby Web site called chinarfl.com, says he is confident the sport will pass. Chinarfl.com is an important platform for Chinese rugby fans and players, providing up-to-date rugby news and multimedia content.

**Q: How good do you think the chances are that rugby will be an Olympic sport?**

**A:** I think there is a great chance, more than 90 percent, that rugby will enter Olympic Games. I am very sure about it. First of all, rugby is in accordance with the Olympic spirit, as it is a game where teamwork and courage are crucial. Secondly, rugby's inclusion in the Olympic Games will be a win-win situation for everyone. As far as national Olympic committees go, rugby offers gold-medal opportunities to everyone, not only the traditional sports superpowers.

And for the Olympic Games, rugby may bring mass exposure and higher audience ratings worldwide, so the IOC's commercial demands will be met. For the game of rugby, inclusion in the Olympics will be an excellent opportunity for future global development, and it will definitely raise the popularity of the game.

**Q: How do you think rugby in China will change should the Olympic bid be successful?**

**A:** As a minor sport in China, rugby is really far away from being popular. If the Olympic bid is successful, I think there will be a drastic change in the current situation. China will put an emphasis on rugby, both officially and non-officially.

After rugby goes Olympic, the official side will definitely increase the funding for the sport's development, and the game will attract more and more youngsters. The athletes will also train hard to chase their Olympic dreams.





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# To drink or to drive?

## China starts war on drunk driving ahead of National Day

The country is in the midst of a serious drunk driving crackdown following a series of high-profile cases in which drunk drivers killed or maimed pedestrians.

### Anti-drunk-driving campaign

The Ministry of Public Security launched a two-month nationwide campaign against drunk driving on August 15 in the wake of a series of fatal accidents that have sparked public anger against drunk drivers.

Police so far have caught 25,765 people driving under the influence of alcohol.

The ministry says drunk drivers will be suspended from driving for three or six months and, in serious cases, detained for 15 days.

If a drunk driver is caught twice within a year, his or her license will be revoked for two to five years.

### Foreigners warned of perils of drunk driving

Foreigners living in Shanghai were reminded by the Exit-Entry Administration Bureau that they may lose their residence permit if they are caught driving under the influence of alcohol, the *Shanghai Daily* reported Tuesday.

A man from a Southeast Asian nation who was caught drunk driving had his residence permit revoked, was detained for 10 days and fined 500 yuan. He was asked to leave the country after being released from detention.

"Since his behavior has caused danger to public security, the Shanghai Exit-Entry Administration Bureau decided to revoke his residence permit according to the country's immigration law," the bureau said in a written statement Monday.

"Any foreigner caught drunk driving will get the same punishment as a local," the statement added. Police did not divulge the suspect's name and nationality.

The man was stopped by police for a routine alcohol test on August 15 when he was heading home from a party at 3 am. A breath test indicated the man was driving under the influence of alcohol. Police also said he was carrying a fake driver's license.

The man confessed he got the license in the US when he studied there but that he did not want to go through the hassle of getting a Chinese one after moving here, so he purchased a counterfeit license, according to police.

Meanwhile in Xi'an, a German national who caused a serious accident while driving drunk has been detained for 15 days, Xinhua news agency reported yesterday. (Agencies)



A police officer looking at a driver blowing into a breathalyzer during a drunk driving test in Mengcheng county, Anhui Province, August 20. CFP Photo

### Third eye

#### A brush with the drunk driving law

In Beijing, where local media reports 97 people were killed in drunk-driving-related accidents in the first half of this year, the police are definitely on the case, as I know from first-hand experience following a minor incident recently.

A friend and I had just finished a good dinner at one of Beijing's very best Thai restaurants, and at about 11 pm set off for home in his car.

My friend, who was driving, had had a small gin and tonic, and over the course of two hours we had consumed a bottle of white wine shared with a third person. On top of a decent meal, none of us could remotely have been described as "drunk." In fact, I'm 99 percent sure we would have passed a UK or US breathalyzer.

Unfortunately for my friend, who was kind enough to offer to drop me home and might well have chosen a different route if he had not, Chinese drunk driving laws are a lot stricter than the UK's – the limit is 0.03 percent blood alcohol content, compared with 0.08 percent in the UK and US.

Unaware of this, I was pretty confident he would pass. But after a couple of breaths, as we waited for the lights to turn by a section of Third Ring Road, the alcohol meter soon lit up like a Christmas tree.

You know that sinking feeling? Up flashed the red numbers, and my friend was being ordered to the side of the road – "Over here ... you follow ... park car," said the policeman, pointing his fluorescent baton in the direction of a small queue of similarly

detained vehicles.

By coincidence we had been discussing how best to deal with the Chinese police over dinner. In India, unless you had mowed down a family of six in a rickshaw, a brush with the law could invariably be sorted with a few hundred rupees and the offer to pay an "on the spot fine," which promptly disappeared into the "Diwali fund" located in the cop's back pocket.

Not in China. Nor did the "white man's privilege" – Indian cops rarely bothered to stop foreigners unless they were visibly misbehaving or weaving dangerously around the road – apply on this side of the Himalaya.

My friend, a Canadian who speaks excellent Chinese, did not even bother to play the "dumb laowai" card. His Chinese wife, a high-powered commercial lawyer, said there was no point in even trying to offer to pay a "spot fine" to make the trouble go away.

No, the policeman was polite and orderly, but utterly implacable. There was none of the slightly threatening and overbearing behavior which police indulge in the world over. I was not able to follow the Chinese conversations precisely, but my friend reported it as very "legalistic" and civilized.

In fact, having been close to being under the limit on the first test, the policeman offered my friend another go, to see if he could sneak under this time. He accepted, but when the second reading was considerably worse than the first, the cop said he would take the lower of the two anyway.

– Peter Foster, Beijing correspondent for The Daily Telegraph

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# Will foreign tour companies make for easier travel in China?



The booming Chinese tourism market attracts foreign investment.

CFP Photo

By Jin Zhu

The China National Tourism Administration (CNTA) announced it will start accepting applications from foreign travel agencies starting September 15.

The minimum capital required for setting up a travel agency has also been lowered from 4 million yuan to 300,000 yuan, though applicants still need to demonstrate they have proper business facilities. A ban on setting up branches of foreign-owned travel agencies was lifted last May.

Does the onset of these policies signal the time has come for foreign capital to swarm the Chinese market?

## Facing a dilemma

JALPAK International (China), the first foreign-owned travel company in China, entered the domestic tour market in 2003 just as the government began accepting applications for foreign travel agencies, set up using foreign capital, for the first time.

But despite having nearly 5 million yuan and great ambitions, the company soon realized the reality of the market was drastically different than its expectations.

According to the Regulation on Travel Agencies, issued by the State Council in 1996, only domestic tours and inbound tours have been opened to foreign tour firms. It means companies still could not organize outbound trips, which is considered a key advantage international travel agencies have over domestic ones.

"It is obvious that foreign travel agencies cannot compete with domestic ones since they have no advantage in terms of customer sources and the business network," said He Fang, chief editor of TravelDaily.cn. "Besides that, most of them are not willing to devote themselves to bargaining for sales since they have already earned good reputations."

According to CNTA statistics, among nearly 20,000 travel agencies registered by the end of May 2008, only 35 of them were invested with foreign capital.

"Currently, the average gross profit ratio for foreign travel agencies in China is only 2.63 percent, which is much lower than the 6.93 percent among the total 20,000 travel agencies," He said.

Over 80 percent of foreign travel agencies have sustained losses for years and some of them have almost closed down, she said.

At present, the main source of business for JALPAK International is Japanese tourists visiting China.

"The company has always paid special attention to the policy as it concerns the outbound tour market," JALPAK PR manager Zhan Shanshan said. "With rather rich resources outside the country, we are looking forward to the day when the market opens."

## More opening is needed

When the government started to accept applications from foreign-owned travel agencies in 2003, many foreign firms were very interested.

"Since the Chinese market is so huge and attractive, many desire to enter into it as early as possible, even though they face great risks," He said.

For foreign travel agencies, their great advantage is on the outbound tour market, where profits are six to eight times that of domestic tours. However, as of the latest edition of the Regulation on Travel Agencies issued last May, the outbound market remains closed to foreign companies.

"It is to protect the local travel agencies," He said. "But meanwhile, it has caused many foreign firms to lose their interest in the Chinese market."

With the latest announcement regarding applications from foreign-owned travel agencies, with the new 300,000 yuan requirement for registered capital, foreign firms can now enjoy the same treatment as domestic firms when they set up travel agencies.

"China has gradually loosened its control of foreign-owned travel agencies," He said. "In the future, opening the outbound market is inevitable as a means to attract more foreign capital."

## Analyst

## Long view on the market

There was no need to worry about domestic travel agencies when the government lowered the threshold for foreign firms to enter the Chinese market, said Li Shengguang, manager of Beijing Youth Travel Service.

"The domestic agencies have obvious advantages, such as local resources and rich experiences in management," he said. "Besides that, foreign firms always have higher requirements on their profits, which would cause them to have no advantage on price competition."

"In the near future, at least, domestic companies will not be threatened."

On the other hand, Li also believes that domestic agencies have much to learn from foreign firms.

"At present, although the business has been developed into almost all areas, there are no core competencies," he said. "Many agencies have not even earned good reputations, and they must rely on special services to attract customers."

According to CNTA statistics, from January to April of this year, the number of Chinese tourists paying for outbound visits reached 15.9 million, a 4.6 percent increase compared with the same period last year.

The World Tourism Organization estimates that China will become the world's largest source of inbound tourists and fourth-largest source of outbound tourists by 2015.

"More foreign capital will swarm into the rising market, especially when the country opens the entire market to them in the future," Li said. "Domestic agencies have to face this rearrangement, and some of them will have to adapt or else they will be knocked out of the market."

## Foreign investment in China up 7 percent

China attracted US \$7.5 billion (51.2 billion yuan) worth of foreign direct investment in August, up 7 percent from August 2008, the Ministry of Commerce said Tuesday. The rise ends 10 consecutive months of year-on-year declines.

Foreign investment in the January-August period was still down 17.5 percent from the same period a year earlier, for a total of \$55.86 billion, but the decline narrowed from a 20.3 percent decrease in the January-July period.

The improvement is another sign that economic recovery is taking hold in China and is in line with other data issued last week. It is likely to stoke further debate on what's next for the country as stimulative measures are beginning to raise the potential for inflationary and redundant-investment risks.

Ministry of Commerce spokesman Yao Jian said during a news briefing that August's rise was mainly due to investment in the manufacturing sector increasing 11.7 percent from a year earlier to \$4.3 billion.

Yao also said foreign trade would contribute positively to China's gross domestic product growth this year.

## IBM launches a 'smart city' project

In its latest bid to get in on China's infrastructure boom, International Business Machines (IBM) is launching a "smart city" project with the north-eastern city of Shenyang, using its technology to help the city address water treatment systems.

The US company, whose focus has shifted in recent years toward software and consulting services, says it hopes the project will serve as a showcase to help it capitalize on urban-planning projects across China, and down the line in other large developing countries like India and Brazil.

"Smart city" is a phrase used by the company to refer to how various public services and infrastructure projects can be enhanced with information technology and data analysis. Smart highways or bridges, for instance, are equipped with traffic sensors and electronic toll systems.

IBM hopes its "smart city" project in Shenyang will lead to more chances to get in on the country's infrastructure boom.

In Shenyang, one of IBM's first tasks will be to analyze data from the city's sewage and plumbing systems to determine where water is being wasted and how access to clean drinking water can be improved.

Shenyang will invest 300 million yuan in the project over five years. IBM wouldn't comment on its own financial contribution, but Thomas Li, director of IBM's China research laboratory, said it would be "not less than what they put in."

IBM will devote 20 to 25 researchers to the project at first, with that number likely to grow over time. IBM will also establish a joint laboratory with the city and Shenyang's Northeastern University.

The project, launched Wednesday, highlights IBM's increasing focus on public sector demand in China, an effort to tap the country's massive infrastructure and stimulus spending. The company has opened a rail-innovation center and a health-care solutions laboratory in China this year, eyeing the hundreds of billions of dollars that China is expected to spend in these two fields alone over the next three years. (Agencies)



# The line between tough love and child exploitation

## Astir over methods of 'child development'

By Venus Lee

With instructions from her grandfather, an 18-month old toddler showed off her swimming skills in front of local media and residents in the coastal city of Qinhuangdao, Hebei Province last week. What would have made an awe-inspiring TV moment has instead sparked a controversy.

Before her 9:30 am scheduled performance last Wednesday, the girl, prodded by her family, smiled to spectators waiting at the city's Dongshan Beach.

She burst into tears when her grandfather, Wang Tiemin, tied a red rope around her waist. It seemed the rope reminded her of what was about to happen, the *Hebei Youth Daily* said in a report.

Wang lowered the toddler into the water, and she again cried the moment her body touched the water. But she immediately launched into a backstroke.

Wang suddenly grasped her legs, held her upside down with her head still in the water, then let go. He repeated this several times. Each time, the girl ended up on her back, floating on the water.

Wang then tugged her underwater using the rope, but she bobbed to the surface in seconds.

She ended the performance by swimming back to the beach, aided by Wang, and then smiled to onlookers.

After the show, some people called the police, alleging child abuse. Many more questioned Wang's motives.

Wang waves off the criticism. He says he only wants to develop his granddaughter's potential. "I want to apply my methods for promoting early childhood development. Many people might only consider intellectual development, but the physical aspect also counts," he says.

To prove that his training methods are effective, he discussed his youngest son's achievements while poring over a photo album with reporters.

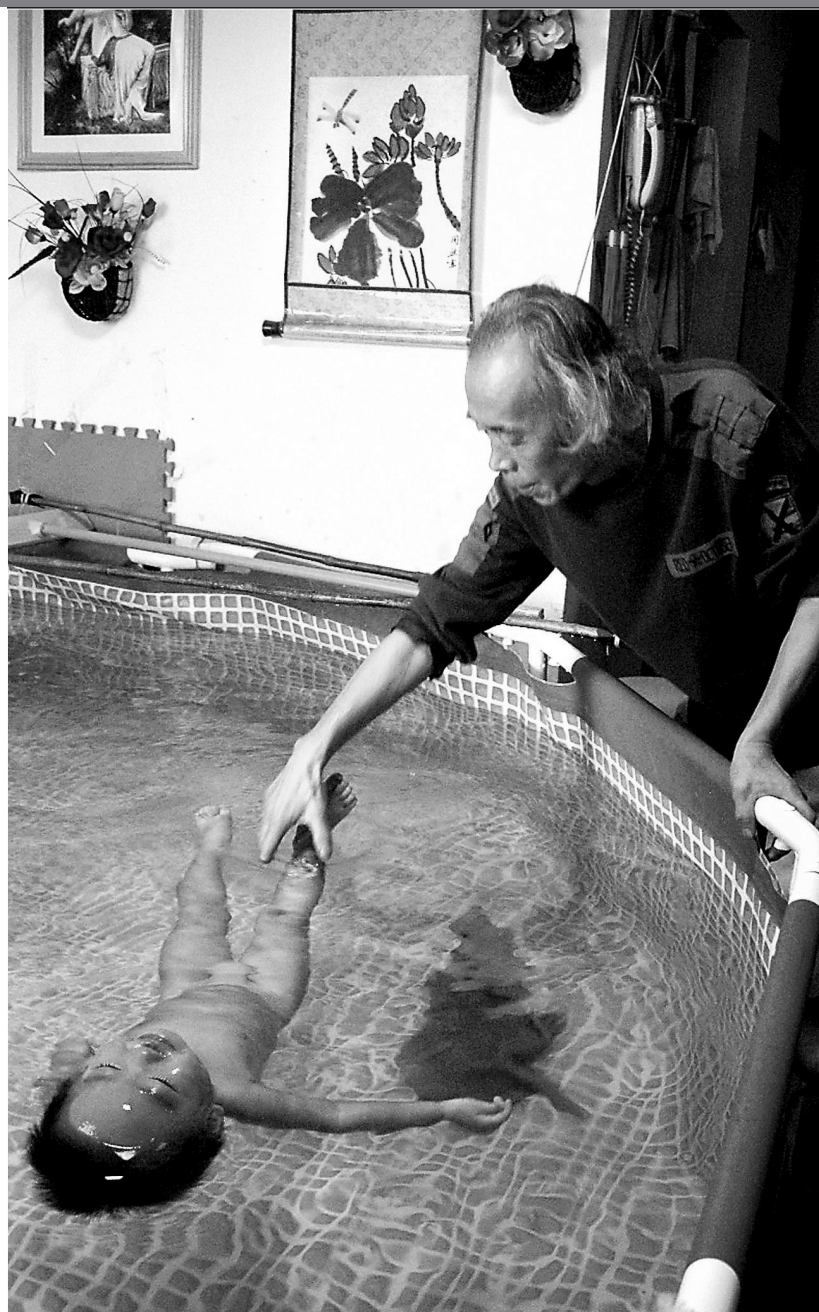
"My son successfully swam across Kunming Lake at the Summer Palace, accompanied by his mother, when he was 14 months old. When he was four years old, he rolled in the water 433 times in 27 minutes and set a Guinness world record. He swam across the Yangtze River in Jiangying, Jiangsu Province, when he was five years old. He swam across the Yellow River in Ningxia when he was 10 years old," the elderly man said.

Wang says his son did more than 100 performances when he was four to 10 years old; in return, he won numerous awards and made very good money. For instance, he said, at age four, his son became a product endorser for a domestic company and was given a house and assured a 1,400-yuan allowance each month. His son has probably made a million yuan since then, Wang says.

The elderly man said that after he retired, he opened an early childhood development center named after his son.

Wang says he is confident in the efficacy of his teaching methods. Everything new always causes a stir at the beginning, he says. "This is not simply trying to copy my son's success or being driven by economic interest. What I want is only to make her become more independent," he says, referring to his granddaughter.

To silence skeptics, he says he plans to hold a seminar in which he will invite experts to argue their case with him face to face.



Wang's training program raises many questions over early child development practices.

Photo by Zhou Cunlin



Wang devised a teaching method by using a pole.



The little girl shows her unwillingness to swim.



Wang built a swimming pool at home.

### Expert's view

Although swimming develops physical strength, it is not easy to say whether this method of promoting early childhood development (ECD) is good or bad. I do not think it should be popularized.

Children below age three need to establish their sense of security as well as form psychological dependence. Training for toddlers should be easy and joyful and avoid causing too much pressure, otherwise there is the risk of forming a distorted personality.

What's more, whether children should have ECD training should depend on whether they have already developed sufficient emotional security. An environment that lacks a sense of security could have a negative impact on their future happiness.

If her grandfather uses such a coercive manner to train the girl, I'm afraid the child will begin to lose trust in people around her and may become suspicious and overly anxious.

Adults' eagerness for quick success and instant benefits may harm children's development. To give their children an edge at the "starting line," some parents will employ any means necessary. They blindly compare training methods with other parents and children become victims of experiments.

This undermines the personality differences among children. The results usually harm children; some may lose their personality, and some may become very rebellious.

— Shi Jiannong, director of Gifted Children Research Center of Institute of Psychology, Chinese Academy of Science

### Comment

#### Worth trying

Wang's training methods are acceptable; after all, we've attached more importance to children's mental development. Their physical potential also needs to be developed while they are very young. It is worth trying as long as it is not harmful.

— Yang Jun, father of a two-year-old boy

#### Pure publicity stunt

I don't know whether he was training or ill-treating his granddaughter. It seems to me this was purely a publicity stunt. Wang just wanted to become popular through hype. Although his granddaughter is an innocent child, he still did not respect her will.

— Huan Huan, student at the Communication University of China

#### Driven by money

I don't believe he will harm the girl, but I think what he wants is economic gain. He found sponsorships through his son's performance in the past. I think what he really wants is money. His "early childhood development" is just a selling point to gain companies' attention.

— Li Tao, freelancer

#### Ill-treatment of the child

He went too far. How can he force a baby to do such a dangerous performance? What a brutal man. I can't even imagine how he could throw his granddaughter in the deep water. That was child abuse. I'm very angry with what he did; he does not understand a mother's feelings. He is not worthy to be her grandfather.

— Li Xiaoyan, kindergarten teacher



# Classical music draws Mexican pianist and Chinese children closer

By Venus Lee

Mexican pianist Patricia Garcia Torres offered *The Black King*, a classical music concert for children, to students from several kindergartens, primary schools and international schools last Sunday. The kids soaked themselves in the music and learned about the artist's life during the hour-long concert.

Garcia Torres came recommended by the Mexican Foreign Ministry. Her performance was part of an artists exchange between the two countries. This was the artist's first visit to China.

She hopes to inspire more children to fall in love with classical music through her special interactive class, "The Black King Concert and Short Story for Children."

Accompanied by an animated film, the artist interpreted on the piano emotions such as love, fear, longing, courage and happiness through Beethoven's "For Elise", Bach's "Tocatta and Fugue", Manuel Ponce's "Intermezzo", Chopin's "Revolutionary Etude" and Debussy's "Golliwogg's Cakewalk."

Besides playing piano, she also shared her childhood experiences of studying music, telling the audience to insist on what they love.

Garcia Torres' first "piano" was just a table. "I had the wish of becoming a great concert pianist when I was six years old when I



Garcia Torres

Photos provided by Ma Wenjie

saw and listened to a piano for the first time, but it was a pity that we didn't have a piano at home. My first piano was really the dining room table," she said.

When she was in fifth grade, she played bells in the school band and her sister played guitar. Her mother signed up her sister as a guitar major in the National Music Conservatory in Mexico City, but refused her request because the family had no piano

at that time.

"I was finally recruited by the conservatory after spending an entire year accompanying my sister and attending her classes as an auditor," Garcia Torres said. "When the director of the conservatory asked me why I didn't study another instrument like the violin or flute, which he could lend me, I said I just want to study the piano!"

When her parents gave her a



Kids are keen on learning music.

piano as a gift, Garcia Torres discovered that a musician's career is one of great preparation and competition. After graduation from the conservatory, she continued her studies in New York City.

Eventually, profession gave her the opportunity to travel all over the world on behalf of Mexico.

Garcia Torres' persistence helped her achieve her dreams. She has received the highest praise for her classical music interpretations, as well as for the interpretation of contemporary composers' masterpieces. In January 2007, Steinway & Sons of New York named her an International Steinway Artist, a recognition bestowed to the best pianist in the world. She is the only Mexican woman to have won this distinction.

Since the fall of 2007, the artist has been presenting didactic concerts for children, including *The Black King*, *the Piano*, with support from the Public Culture and Education Department of the state of Jalisco, Mexico. She wants to develop children's passion for learning classical music.

"Patricia narrates in a pleasant and simple way why she fell in love with the piano, the importance of music and why the piano is the king of all instruments," said Zhang Yan, the music teacher of Beijing No. 2 Experimental Primary School. "Through interpreting masterpieces of great composers accompanied by videos, images and sound, the children can listen to different styles of music and discover the importance and value of classical music."

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# Diplomatic community raises 1 million yuan for Yunnan schools



Diplomats from different embassies show their countries' specialties to visitors.

CFP Photo

By Han Manman

Members of Beijing's diplomatic community raised 1 million yuan for the construction of new schools in Yunnan Province at a charity sale in the Olympic Green last Saturday.

One of the participants was Eleni Moutsaki, press and communication attache at the Greek embassy, who sold Greek shampoo, olive oil and sculptures at the Love Knows No Borders Bazaar.

Representatives from more than 70 embassies in Beijing set up 80 booths, which offered everything from exotic cuisine to their native handicrafts and ethnic costumes.

"Our goal is to sell everything, and to take the money to help kids go to school," Moutsaki said. Funds raised at the bazaar will be used to build well-equipped schools in Malipo and Jinping, two poverty-stricken counties in Yunnan.

US Ambassador John Huntsman was present at the event and was busy selling second-hand books with his family. "We're working hard

today to pursue a common cause – to help school children in Yunnan. It's very inspiring," he said.

On display at the Japanese embassy's three booths were products like fabrics, lollipops with comic characters and cakes. Katayama Yukari, wife of the embassy's economic minister Katayama Kazuki, said she started preparing for the event two months ago and baked the Japanese cakes herself.

This year's sale was initiated by Le Aimei, wife of Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi and the ministry's honorary Ambassador for Poverty Alleviation. The event takes place every two years and this was the first time it was held outdoors.

"This activity will not only raise funds for the improvement of education in the two counties, but will also give the children hope and courage to rise above poverty," Le said.

Since 1992, the Chinese foreign ministry has provided more than 200 million yuan to improve local education in impoverished areas.

## UAE a popular new destination for Chinese tour groups

By Huang Daohen

Tales of Arabian Nights will soon become a reality for Chinese tourists as the United Arab Emirates (UAE) received "Approved Destination Status" from the Chinese government Tuesday. This means travel agencies in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou can now send tour groups to the UAE, and they are doing so for the first time this week.

About 10,000 Chinese nationals are expected to visit the Emirates, in particular Dubai, mostly through organized tour groups and for business trips and product exhibitions, the Dubai Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing (DTCM) said.

To showcase Dubai's cultural diversity and tourist attractions, the department and Emirates Airline have launched a massive travel campaign. The first Chinese tourists bound for a five-day tour of the bustling metropolis took off on an Emirates flight from

Beijing's Capital International Airport Tuesday night.

"China is going to play a significant role in the UAE reaching its goal of attracting 2.3 million guests by the end of 2012," Adam Li, Emirates' Beijing Sales Manager, said at a ceremony before the flight. "As China is now a world manufacturing powerhouse, we will also be looking to increase awareness of UAE as a business tourism destination."

The China National Tourism Administration, the government body that regulates the number of nationals traveling out of the country, recently relaxed restrictions on tourist travel to the UAE and eight other countries. The new policy is expected to increase China's outbound travel to UAE by 50 percent.

Of the nine new destinations offered to Chinese tour groups, the UAE is proving to be the most popular, since there are already direct flights from Beijing to Dubai on Emirates and to Abu Dhabi on



The first Chinese group to start its UAE trip Tuesday night.

Photo provided by Pan Wang

Etihad Airways.

"The UAE, especially Dubai, has a recognizable image among the Chinese people," said Michelle Chen, the deputy general manager of Hunter Interna-

tional Tourism, one of China's largest travel agencies. "The UAE is a Muslim country, which for the Chinese is mysterious and exotic, as well as being very modern and open."



### Guesting in Yuanqi Tea House

Deep in the tranquil Xiaoju Hutong, Dongcheng District, this courtyard residence is overwhelmed with the scent of Brahma-susvara and tea.

Inside the quadrangle are old locust trees, jujubes and a small fish pond with pretty goldfishes and tender lotus.

Each separate tea room offers surprises, like Go and chess tables or an old

guzheng, a Chinese zither. Have a cup of top grade wild Pu'er and let the ancient aroma penetrate your blood. The summer heat will vanish without a trace and leave you refreshed.

Every weekend, the tea house holds courses to teach foreigners the arts of tea and calligraphy. You can appreciate the teas' fine

scent and gain knowledge at the same time. Yuanqi Tea House is a great stop on any Beijing Hutong Tour. Stay for a while to experience traditional Beijing culture and enjoy unique tea.

Address: 40 Xiaoju Hutong, Dongzhimen Nan Xiaojie, Dongcheng District  
Tel: 010-8400 2804  
Web site: www.yuanqichina.com



## Make your walls dance with color

A Lazure painting workshop is regularly held at Jiuchang Art Zone in Wangjing.

"Lazure can liberate the colors in plain and boring walls. It makes the colors float through the use of 'colorific smooth shadow.' It can lift the atmosphere in a place, resulting in an environmentally friendly interior that improves people's life and work," he said.

Lazure is a demanding painting style, so the workshop's 10 participants first had to take a basic course in color matching and trapping, fresco painting and wall treatment.

Under Stolfo's guidance, they turned a bare white wall into a canvas that radiated positive energy. They painted at least three layers of translucent color, which created a calming and soothing atmosphere.

"Lazure will remind you of nature," said Zhang Daisong, 29, one of the participants. "When you see the glow of sunset or a verdant forest in varying shades of green, it creates a space inside you that makes you feel relaxed and soothes your soul."

Wang Bingzhi and Xu Hui, new parents who joined the workshop, said they will use their knowledge about lazure to create for their baby a comfortable and "magical" bedroom.

"We also want to cultivate our baby's appreciation for color and promote his artistic imagination from infancy," Xu said.



Photo by Zhan Wanli

Bikers in the China event of the Norwegian race were composed of semiprofessionals and amateurs out for a chal-

lenging ride. Many of the riders described the track as tough, "but it was good because then you got the exciting mountain biking feeling," an elderly Chinese participant said.

A big group of Chinese racers came from Mudanjiang city in nearby Heilongjiang Province, and many of its members did well in the 25- and 50-kilometer races. Among its stars were Lin Fang, who took first place in the

men's 25 km and Pan Jihong, who came second in the women's 50 km and took home a pot of 6,000 yuan.

The women's 50 km title went to Canadian competitor Jennifer Hillmanand, who won over Pan with an overwhelming lead of 55.5 minutes.

Hillmanand said she had a great time at the competition and enjoyed Yakeshi's track and scenery.

Top spot in the men's 50 km went to Feng Kuanjie, winner of this year's Huangshan MTB (mountain bike) Festival and Genghis Khan MTB Adventure.

Also in the competition was Terje Amundsen, a Norwegian biker who recently finished the Nordic Ways-sponsored Vatternrundan race in Yunnan Province.

(By Huang Daohen)

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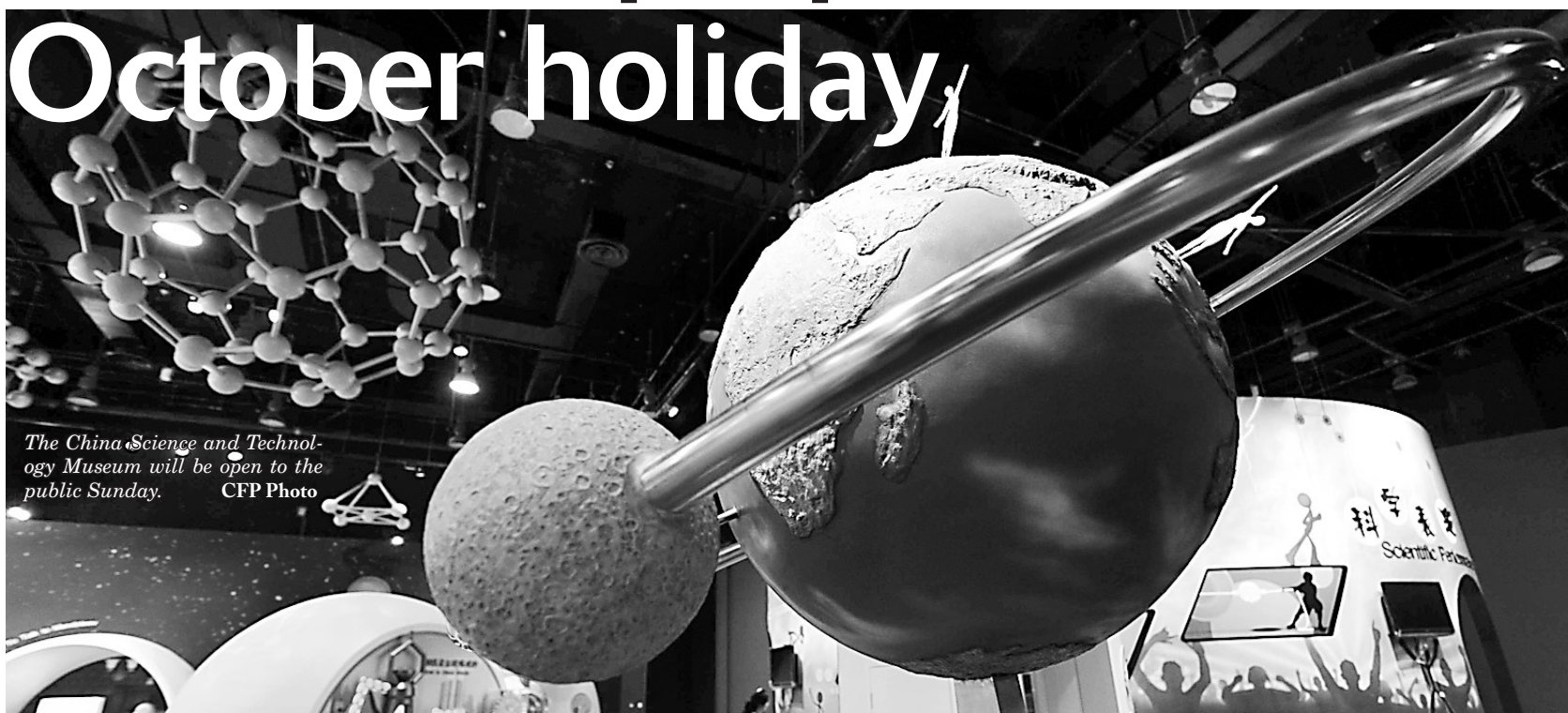
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# Museums prepare for October holiday



The China Science and Technology Museum will be open to the public Sunday. CFP Photo

By Zhao Hongyi

During the October 1-8 National Day holiday, 138 museums in Beijing will open a combined 400 new exhibitions and displays.

The Forbidden City's Palace Museum will unveil two on traditional Chinese culture: "Ancient Chinese Ink Paintings and Handwritings" and "The Best Song Carving Collections From Han and Wei Dynasties by Huang Yi."

Another two will be on foreign treasures and relics, co-sponsored by the China World Art Museum of the China Millennium Monument: "Cartier Treasures - King of Jewellers," "Jewellers to Kings" and

"The Civilizations in Qin-Han and Rome."

The newly built China Science and Technology Museum will open on September 20. The museum is divided into five sections: Kids Interaction, Chinese Lights, Exploration and Discovery, Science and Technologies and Life, and Challenges and Future. It also has four cinemas to entertain children and adults.

The Capital Museum presents through November 13 "Exploration - Archeology and Discovery," a display of treasures from 25 Chinese provincial museums. It explores the achievements of Chinese archeology and discoveries over the

past 60 years.

At the Chinese Academy of Science, the Institute of Zoology's new Specimen Hall will hold half a dozen exhibitions showing the diversification and evolution of animals, and human beings' relationship with birds and insects. The hall's 4D cinema will also present films on scientific research and study.

The China Railway Museum will open an exhibition on the progress of railway construction over the past 60 years, focusing on milestones like the construction of the Qinghai-Tibet and Datong-Qinhuangdao railways, and the domestic high-speed railways.

## Useful addresses

### Capital Museum

Where: 16 Fuxingmen Wai Dajie, Xicheng District  
When: Daily except Monday, 9 am - 5 pm  
Ticket: 30 yuan  
Tel: 6339 3339

### China Science and Technology Museum

Where: 5 Beichen Dong Lu, Chaoyang District  
When: Daily except Monday, 9 am - 4:30 pm  
Ticket: 30 yuan; 20 yuan for students  
Tel: 5904 1000

### National Art Museum of China

Where: 1 Wusi Lu, Dongcheng District  
When: Daily 9 am - 5 pm  
Ticket: Free until October 23, but booking necessary  
Tel: 6403 0586; 6403 1886

### Palace Museum

Where: Forbidden City  
When: Daily 8:30 am - 5 pm  
Ticket: 60 yuan  
Tel: 6513 2255

## Free shipping on online shopping gets hot

By Jin Zhu

Online vendors have already put into action their marketing plan for the National Day holiday: the free shipping of goods to customers.

Amazon.cn, a popular book seller, said that beginning September 5, all purchases on the Web site will be shipped free. Previously, the offer was only extended to customers who spent at least 49 yuan on a single receipt.

"I bought two books for 36 yuan on the Web site and got free shipping. In the past, my friend and I had to combine our purchases or I had to buy another book to enjoy free shipping," said Beijing resident Nancy Meng. "There's no worry about that anymore."

Meanwhile, Dangdang.com, Amazon's biggest competitor, has offered the service since October last year.

Other online stores have jumped on the bandwagon, including Web sites 360buy.com, Okbuy.com.cn, Newegg.com.cn, Vancl.com and Youa.baidu.com.



Yu Feng, a young man from Chongqing, sells and delivers vegetables online. CFP Photo

## Some shopping sites that offer free shipping

### 360buy.com

Famous for selling digital products, household appliances, cell phones, computer parts and accessories. Free shipping to certain centralized drop off/pick up points.

### Dangdang.com

Bookseller, offers free shipping to 360 cities on the mainland.

### Okbuy.com.cn

Famous for selling brand-

name sports shoes such as Nike, adidas, Converse and Puma. Free shipping on all goods.

### Amazon.cn

Bookseller, offers free shipping on all goods, with no geographic limitation or minimum purchase required.

### Vancl.com

Specializes in men's clothing. Free shipping on purchases of at least 200 yuan on a single receipt.

## Flower expo starts with chrysanthemum display

By Zhao Hongyi

The municipal government will unveil a chrysanthemum exhibit Saturday to welcome next week's China Flower Expo and to celebrate the opening of its permanent venue in Shunyi District.

Northern China, including Beijing, is home to 10 extraordinary species of chrysanthemums. Besides this, the Chinese capital grows 100 hectares of tea chrysanthemum, specially incubated to be made into summertime tea.

These will be among the chrysanthemums on show in 17 gardens at the Beijing International Flower Harbor in Shunyi District. Visitors will be given a chance to try their hand at planting and harvesting the flowers.

Besides displays of indoor bonsai and outdoor garden chrysanthemums, the exhibition will feature talks on the cultural and medical significance of the flower, and the art

of ikebana, or Japanese flower arrangement. The event aims, in part, to explore the relationship between chrysanthemums and culture, the arts, and science and technology.

Everyday products made from Chrysanthemum will also be sold at the exhibition, such as chrysanthemum tea, chrysanthemum wines, chrysanthemum pillows and chrysanthemum snacks.

The municipal government has already set up chrysanthemum displays in Beihai Park, the Temple of Heaven and the Summer Palace. The Botanic Garden will showcase the same thing in October and November.

### Chrysanthemum Exhibition

When: September 19 - October 5, 9 am - 5 pm

Where: Beijing International Flower Harbor, Shunyi District

Ticket: 20 yuan  
Tel: 6946 2743



“Everything shows that the market for contemporary art has gotten warm again after last year’s economic recession,” Colin Chinnery, fair director of ShContemporary 2009, said last Friday at the Shanghai Exhibition Center.

Before the fair, the director worried about the result of this year's ShContemporary, but on Tuesday the organization had a surprising announcement. "The turnover is more than last year's, though there were twice as many galleries and museums last year."

# ShContemporary 2009 gives confidence

With the economy's recovery, the galleries and collectors see new opportunities in Shanghai's fair. "We have attended the fair three times in three years, but this year I saw the most Chinese collectors in the history of the fair," said Jeffrey Ian Rosen, director of the Japanese gallery Taka Ishii.

ShContemporary has happened every September for the past three years. The first fair in 2007 immediately established itself as a dynamic and important international contemporary art fair in Asia. Last year, it attracted more than 140 galleries from nearly 30 countries, but the good turn-out does not

But the fair's turnover has exceeded last year's figure. On the first day, OTA Gallery from Japan sold four pieces of Kusama Yayoi's work at a total of

On September 10, about 250 collectors were from Taiwan, 19 percent from Hong Kong, 14 percent from Japan, 15 percent from the



Swimmer by Liu Ruizhao



Where Have the Flowers Gone by  
*Shinji Ohmaki* CFP Photo



*Xu Zhen did an installation particularly for ShContemporary 2009.* Photo by He Jianwei



Modern Boy by Kang Kang Hun





# Destination Contemporary art

## Attendance to galleries and collectors

collectors.  
less than 1 million yuan for each piece.  
o many artists have cut down the price,"  
ce, a gallery in Beijing's 798 Art District.  
**ectors**

ector and organizers have carried out a  
ent Program (CDP), which was started  
acilitate an emerging art market, and in  
new opportunities?

ted a specialized team whose purpose is  
ina and other Asian countries to create  
e of individual galleries or independent  
urces to use all year round instead of just  
o create a powerful means for the stimu-

ctors attended a gala dinner; 28 percent  
g Kong, 17 percent from South Korea, 12  
Chinese mainland and other regions of

Asia Pacific, and 9 percent from Europe and the US.

"About 90 percent of the collectors there that night were from CDP's target region," Chinnery said.

On September 11, a group of people attended a lecture about collecting art at Shanghai Exhibition Center's forum hall. They were VIP customers of China Minsheng Bank. Their assets totaled more than 10 million yuan and they are regarded as emerging collectors in the Asia Pacific region.

"They are curious and enthusiastic about contemporary art," Jing from Beyond the Space said. "When they do not understand a piece of work during exhibition visits, they will ask questions."

Most of the galleries believe that domestic collectors have become more mature. "They don't ask 'how much for the piece' as their opening any more," said Ma Nan, manager of Found Museum, a Taiwan gallery. "They begin by expressing curiosity about the artist and the work itself."

### Better service for collectors

Besides the CDP, the organizers have carried out favorable policies for collectors. The organizers paid for travel and accommodation for the collectors.

"A better theme for the exhibition can also attract more collectors," Chinnery said.

In the third installment of ShContemporary, two new components were integrated into the exhibition's theme of "Discovery," coming at a time when shifts in the global economic landscape have dramatically transformed the patterns of buying and selling art.

One is a curated exhibition to showcase works by some of the world's most significant artists who have come to international attention during these past two decades, as well as some of the world's most promising emerging art.

The other is a forum of international experts to address, through a series of public lectures and roundtables, the urgent question being currently discussed throughout the centers of the international art world: what is contemporary art?

"China is a huge and potential-laden market for contemporary art, but it's a new market," Chinnery said. "Mature collectors know what kind of artwork they like and how to invest. But our target is the emerging collectors. We must let them know how to collect a piece of work, and the fair is a platform for them to see the galleries and meet the curators."

The city is another factor for why more collectors attend Shanghai's fair than Beijing's. "Beijing has its own art atmosphere, but the problem is that you will find the same people appearing there," Ma said. "But Shanghai is different. There are more new faces. It's better to see exhibitions in Beijing, but Shanghai is a better platform for trading."



Warhol polaroid



OTA Gallery from Japan sold four pieces of Kusama Yayoi's work at a total of \$800,000 (5.5 million yuan) to Asian collectors.

Photos provided by ShContemporary



The Martyr by Peng Hungchih-Farfur

Photo by He Jianwei



Sex Scandal by Xiang Qinghua



# Hemingway's grandson re-edits 'A Moveable Feast'

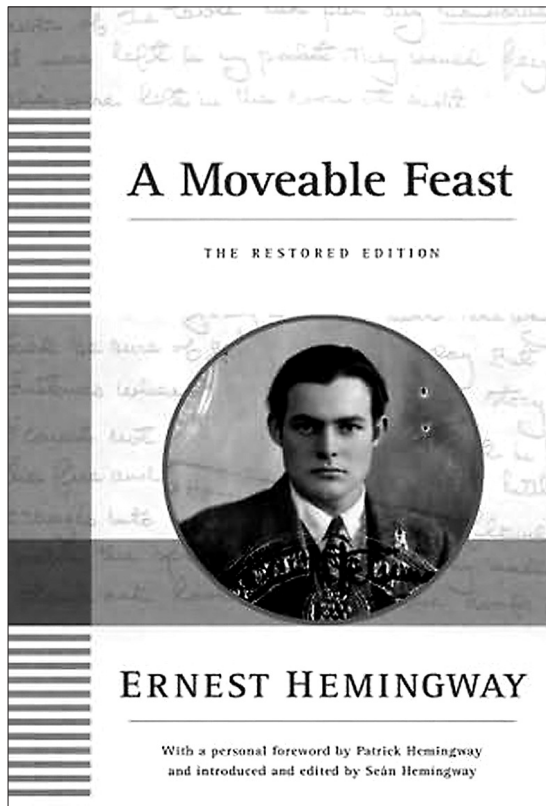
By Charles Zhu

Readers of Ernest Hemingway's *A Moveable Feast*, first published posthumously by Scribner in 1964, will probably have mixed feelings about the July 14 publication of *A Moveable Feast: the Restored Edition* (256pp, Scribner, \$25).

It carries an introduction by Sean Hemingway and a forward by Patrick Hemingway, Ernest's only surviving son. Ernest Hemingway once called this memoir of his years as a writer in 1920s Paris "my Paris book." The new edition has been extensively reworked by Sean, Ernest's grandson, who did not like what the original said about his grandmother, Pauline Pfeiffer.

Pfeiffer, a wealthy journalist who foresaw Hemingway's fame, befriended Hadley Richardson, who was then Hemingway's wife, and later became attracted to Hemingway. The two had an affair, and Pfeiffer eventually became Hemingway's second wife. She is Patrick's mother and Sean's grandmother. No wonder her relatives wanted to soften the castigation of a woman who, according to Hemingway, infiltrated and destroyed a happy family "using the oldest trick there is." The restored version puts the blame more on Hemingway.

Sean has removed several sections of the book's final chapter and replaced them with other sketches of Hemingway's that he feels delineate his grandmother more favorably. Ten other chapters that roused the grandson's displeasure have



been moved into an appendix. This is professedly designed to create "a truer representation of the book my grandfather intended to publish."

Sean believes that Mary Hemingway, Ernest's fourth wife, clumsily edited the manuscript of an unfinished work and that she created the final chapter, "There is Never Any End to Paris."

According to A.E. Hotchner, the author of the memoir *Papa Hemingway*, the book was a serious work that Hemingway finished with his usual intensity,

and that he certainly intended it for publication. He confirmed that what he read on the plane coming back from Cuba was essentially what was published. There was no extra chapter created by Mary.

After Hemingway's suicide in 1961, Mary and Harry Bague, his editor at Scribner's, prepared the book for publication. Sean argues that they used various drafts and scraps of manuscripts. Mary admitted that she cut the text and rearranged some sections, but she said, "No one added any word

to the book."

The new edition omitted the last few words of the 1964 copy about the three-sided love affair: "I did my business in New York and when I got back to Paris I should have caught the first train from the Gard de L'Est that would take me down to Austria. But the girl I was in love with was in Paris then, and I did not take the first train, or the second or the third." It seems that the revised edition is intended to settle old family quarrels rather than to improve Hemingway's literary value and the reader's pleasure.

As an author, Hotchner questions the wisdom of such a restored edition. He asks, with this reworking as a precedent, what will Scribner do, for instance, if a descendant of F. Scott Fitzgerald demands the removal of the chapter in *A Moveable Feast* about the size of Fitzgerald's penis, or if Ford Madox Ford's grandson wanted to delete references to his ancestor's body odor?

He thinks that all publishers, Scribner included, are guardians of the books that authors entrust to them. Someone who inherits an author's copyright is not entitled to amend his work. There is always the possibility that the inheritor could write his own book offering his own corrections instead of messing with a classic.

At any rate, as lovers of Hemingway's works, we are bound to be immensely interested in making comparisons between the original and restored edition, and to dig up anything hidden in history.

## CNPIEC Bookstore book listing

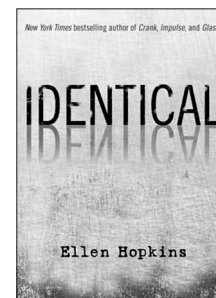
The China National Publication Import and Export Corporation's (CNPIEC) bookstore recommends these new arrivals to *Beijing Today* readers.



### Keeping the Dead

By Tess Gerritsen, 336pp, Bantam Press, 130 yuan

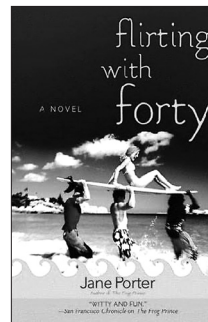
She is Pilgrim Hospital's most unusual patient, and on this Saturday night, a media circus is gathering to record every minute of her visit to the X-ray department. Crammed into the small CT scan room are reporters, TV cameras, a select group of medical technicians and forensic pathologist Maura Isles. Isles is there because the patient being scanned tonight is not alive. She has probably been dead for centuries. She is, in fact, a mummy.



### Identical

By Ellen Hopkins, 576pp, Margaret K. McElderry, 125 yuan

Kaeleigh and Raeanne are identical down to the dimple. As daughters of a district court judge father and a politician mother, they are an all-American family – on the surface. Behind the facade, each sister has her own dark secret, and that is where their differences begin. For Kaeleigh, she is the misplaced focus of Daddy's love, intended for a mother whose presence on the campaign trail means absence at home. All that Raeanne sees is Daddy playing a game of favorites – and she is losing. If she has to lose, she will do it on her own terms, so she chooses drugs, alcohol and sex.



### Flirting with Forty

By Jane Porter, 368pp, 5 Spot, 90 yuan

A divorced single mom finds an unexpected romance with a much younger man while on vacation in Hawaii. He has the second home and the Porsche. She has the kids and a broken heart. Jackie Laurens, a post-divorcee heading towards the big four-oh, is on vacation in sunny Hawaii and facing her upcoming birthday alone when she falls for Kai, her gorgeous, much younger surf instructor. Their wild, passionate fling becomes the biggest surprise of her life.

(By He Jianwei)

## Living in Neil Postman's prophesized world

By He Jianwei

In 1985, US media theorist and cultural critic Neil Postman predicted in the book *Amusing Ourselves to Death* that the corrosive effects of television and show business would rub off onto politics and public discourse in the 21st century.

Currently, as television is joined by more sophisticated forms of media – from the Internet to cell phones to DVDs – it has taken on even greater influence.

Five years ago, the Chinese translator Zhang Yan introduced Postman's book to Chinese readers. In 2004, the book won the inaugural Chinese Media Book Prize, which was the first non-commercial book prize organized by Chinese media groups.

This May, Guangxi Normal University Press published a new version, *Amusing Ourselves to Death and the Disappearance of the Childhood* (translated by Zhang Yan and Wu Yanting, 317pp, 34 yuan),



which combined Postman's two books and aims to rethink "the age of entertainment."

The most influential Chinese intellectuals wrote recommendations for the new version. "We now live in the world that Postman described. It is an age of imbalance between information and action. The prediction in the book reflects today's reality," wrote Chen Danqing, painter and critic.

The book is a prophetic look at what happens when

politics, journalism, education and even religion become subject to the demands of entertainment. Postman's theme is the decline of the print world and the ascendancy of television, with its tendency to present everything – including murder, mayhem and politics – as entertainment.

Postman began his book with a discussion about George Orwell and Aldous Huxley. He said reality was reflected more by Huxley's *Brave New World*, where the public was oppressed by pleasure, than Orwell's *1984*, where they were oppressed by pain.

"What Orwell feared were those who would ban books," Postman wrote. "What Huxley feared was that there would be no reason to ban a book, for there would be no one who wanted to read one. Orwell feared those who would deprive us of information. Huxley feared those who would give us so much that we would be reduced to passivity and egoism. Orwell

feared that the truth would be concealed from us. Huxley feared the truth would be drowned in a sea of irrelevance. Orwell feared we would become a captive culture. Huxley feared we would become a trivial culture, preoccupied with some equivalent of the feelies, the orgy porgy, and the centrifugal bumble puppy."

But in China, the tendency to entertain has appeared only in recent years. "The reality in China is that not only television but also the press leads to a disappearance of childhood," wrote Zhou Guoping, a philosopher.

Intellectuals worry about the entertainment age and believe Postman's prediction for US media will help Chinese readers think its impact.

"In the pan-entertainment era, entertainment itself is not awful, but the bad thing is that people find entertainment in everything," wrote Huang Jiwei, a book critic. "The book gives us a warning against the phenomenon."



# Glittering on the online catwalks

By Wang Yu

Beginners to online shopping always have the same first question: what if the shirt or skirt doesn't fit?

This makes buyers think twice before they transfer money from their banks. Two years ago, online stores laid out their products on Web sites using only simple pictures taken by a digital camera. Now, to ease customer doubts and, as most top shops do, build up brand names, online dealers are more concerned about promotion, especially in the form of photos, thus giving rise to "Net models."

Though the standard for Net models is much lower than that for magazine cover girls, the selection process is none the less intricate. Popular stores pay a lot and require a lot. Besides, the blurred line between art and business has extended online.

## Behind the shop window

Sheryl Huang started her online store on Taobao.com three years ago when she was in her final year of college. In the beginning, her store sold online gaming "point cards." There was huge demand, and selling point cards was a common strategy among stores that wanted to grow.

One year later, the card shop was transformed into a fashion store, which was Huang's lifelong dream. However, operations were not easy. Under normal conditions, different dealers always sell the same things, so the only way to attract buyers is to bring down the price.

"That was a vicious cycle. The lower the price, the less you earn. It was bad for every dealer," Huang says.

The low prices also made buyers doubt the quality of the products. Because online stores were not as popular as they are now, people had a tendency to compare the clothes they saw online with those from chain stores.

The trick was introducing the products to the customers in a smarter and more efficient way. Buyers trust real stores because they can touch the material and try the clothes, which is a service that online stores can never offer. As a part-time photographer, Huang noticed that some shops began using photos of models wearing their clothes, which made for more attractive displays.

Huang copied the method and her photographing skills boosted her promotion. Most of the models in her pictures were friends. "Most shop owners don't know photographing, so they have to hire photographers and models," Huang says. "This gave birth to a new business on Taobao."

## Not an easy job

"It is like a regular application for a job: you send your pictures to the shop owners, they decide the rest," says Long Jiuwen, a graphic design student at China Central Academy of Fine Arts, who became a Net model half a year ago.

A former model for students in the photography department, Long was recruited by a friend

who had just opened an online store. After the first deal, she began to collect more information about the profession on the Internet. Although you don't have to be as slim as professional models to get a job in the e-business world, shop owners still have certain requirements.

A model must be between 160 to 175 cm tall and, as opposed to Kate-Moss-cool, the young ladies should be the lovely, girl-next-door type. Online modeling is never Fashion Week; the lead in the photos is always the clothes. A model also has to be smart and adaptable because you do not always work with the same photographer.

"Usually I can earn 200 yuan each time," Long says. "However, the payment is not a fixed number – it depends on the shop's budget. Big stores on Taobao pay much more, about 500, and they also have the money to hire professional photographers and models."

Being a part-time job does not mean it is easy to finish. Most of the models say the process of shooting is tiring, and it usually takes an entire day to get the job done. There are dozens of different clothes on the list every time. The most terrible thing is shooting cold wear during summertime. It can be scorching hot outside, but models have to don heavy clothes and pretend they are enjoying the cool wind of autumn.

In addition, "regular online stores cannot hire professional teams, so a model may have to help the photographer or do the makeup by herself," Long says. "It is not an easy job, but I get to try a bunch of clothes to earn money, so that is pretty cool."

## The leading style sucks

Wang Yue, a photographer for a fashion Web site, has plenty of experience photographing for online stores. Most of the models he uses are from fashion magazines, especially those aimed at young readers who do not have the money to buy luxury brands. However, to Wang, it is still too early to announce the flourishing of a new online business.

"It takes time, and the cost of running a store is much higher when hiring professionals," he

says. "Unless you are one of the top stores, it's not cost-effective."

TI, a handicrafts shop owner, also offers photographing service on her page. As a photographer who takes crisp, clean pictures in a Japanese indie style, she admits there are few clients who accept her way of shooting.

"As Korean pop culture dominates the mainstream fashion taste in China, most shop owners inevitably require photos of a similar style to attract regular buyers," TI says. "And the market for us remains a niche, as only the big stores have money to invest in the pictures and as a result, they lead the online style."

The war between making art and business never ends. One of the solutions may be to start your own scene, and Jianglaonian's vintage clothes shop is an example. The shop owner left college to continue her fashion dream, and the most remarkable signs in her store are the photos of herself wearing the products in different, weird styles.

The pop-art-like pictures soon spread on the Internet. To the average consumer, Jianglaonian is nothing but another strange Taobao dealer, but among young niche stylists her name is well-known.

"It is just me and what I design. The photos depend on how I feel with the clothes on," she says. "The online hype indeed helped the sales, but not that much."

However, even if fashion's minorities do not care about the mainstream, sooner or later their time will come.



Jianlaonian became one of the most popular Taobao models for her pop-art-like dressing style. Unlike other models, however, she is her own boss.

Photos provided by Jianglaonian



# Little Italy in Piazza Italia

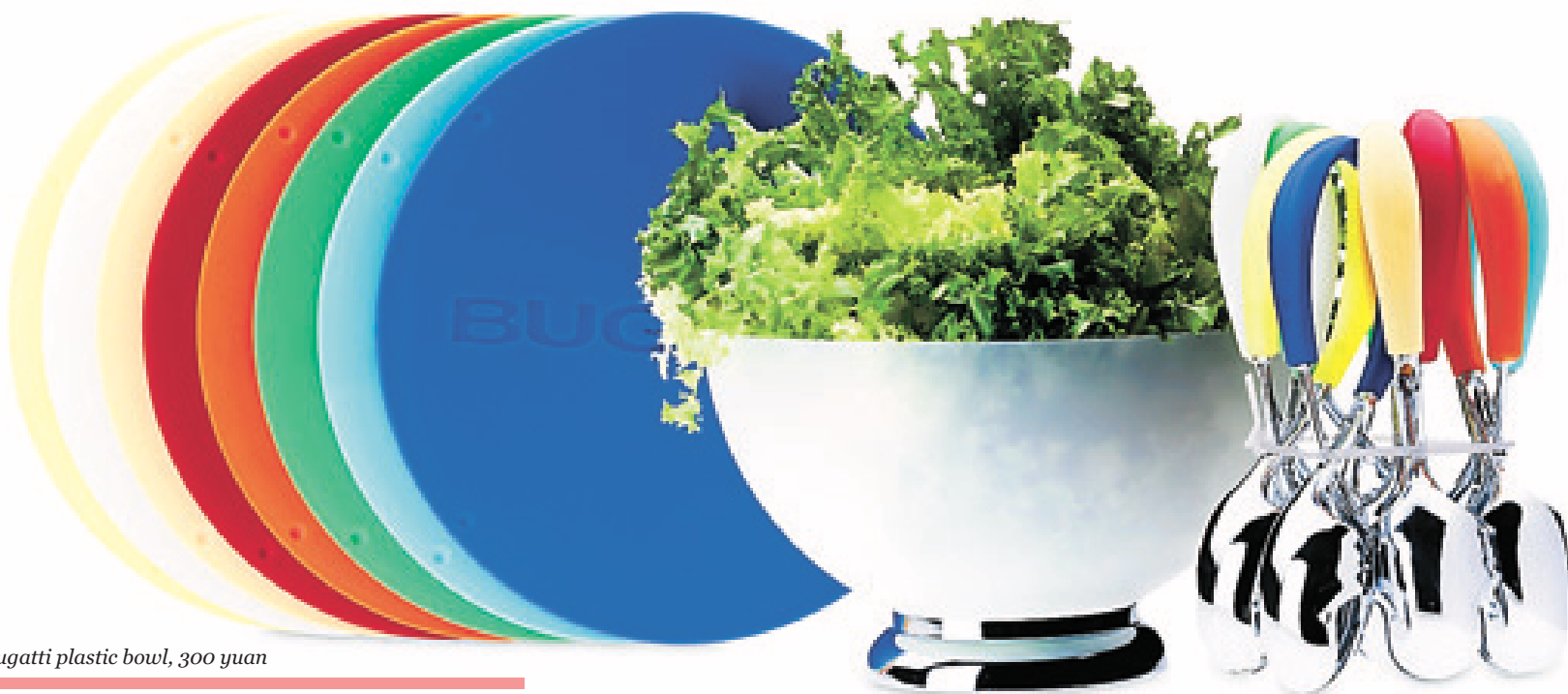
## Dining room and kitchen partners

By Annie Wei

Many Italians in town complain that the shops in the new Piazza Italia building are pricey. That may be the case, but put that down to the cost of getting your hands on real Italian products.

With their serious price tag, they make ideal presents for life's special moments – a close friend's wedding, a new baby in the family or a special piece for your new home.

For help navigating your way around 2,000 Italian products, *Beijing Today* talks to Piazza Italia's sales and event manager, Irene Matricardi.



Bugatti plastic bowl, 300 yuan



Kitchenware, 100 to 300 yuan a piece

### Stylish kitchen appliances

People who want their kitchen appliances as stylish as their flat-screen TV or surround-sound system should check out Bugatti products.

The Bugatti Diva coffeemaker has been hailed by fashion and design magazines as "not just a stylish espresso machine, but a piece of contemporary art." It is so popular that it has sold out.

The Bugatti line also offers the Vera kettle (4,000 to 5,000 yuan), Vela blender (3,000 yuan) and Uma kitchen scale and timer (1,000 yuan).

The Vera kettle has a screen that displays the temperature of the water as it is being heated. Its handle contains buttons for setting the water temperature you want (45 to 100 C). It also has a timer that will turn the machine on at a specific time, so you can wake up to piping hot water ready for your hot tea or oatmeal.

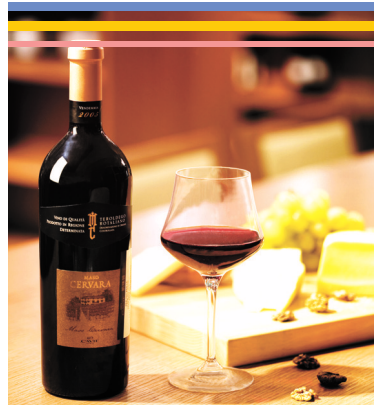
### Truly Western cookware

The second floor also has a big kitchenware section, with brands like Ballarini, a leading name in non-stick cookware.

The store sells a lovely Ballarini set called "I love Pizza" (480 yuan), a heart-shaped collection of pans for preparing pizza, risotto, crepe and pasta. The set comes with three bottles of tomato sauces and dry herbs.

Shoppers who are looking for quality cookware that have truly Western designs should drop by Piazza Italia.

Italian cookware is new to the Chinese market, "unlike German brands that have been sold here for over a decade and have adjusted their product designs to Chinese cooking styles," said Huang Li, the lifestyle section manager of Sundan, a kitchenware retail chain.



Italian wine and crystal glass, starting at 100 yuan each

### Italian wine and olive oil

With 900 types of grapes, Italy offers the world's widest variety of wines.

Piazza's wine section, on the second floor, contains 50 kinds of Trentino wines and 70 other top wines (100 to 2,000 yuan a bottle).

According to a guidebook of Italian wines published by the Italian Wine Alliance, the country's southern region of Trentino produces wines that have consistent taste and characteristics year after year. Trentino wines have found their niche worldwide among wine drinkers who look for reasonably good and affordable wines.

Beside the wines are 70 types of extra virgin olive oil (100 to 300 yuan per bottle).

Olive oil is a booming product in China because of consumers' increasing concern with maintaining a healthy diet. However, there is little information in town about how to distinguish between good and bad olive oil.

Piazza's olive oil section gives out free samples. It also has a sales staff who can answer shoppers' questions.



Pizza maker, 480 yuan

Continued on page 17...



... continued from page 16

# Coffee to fine dining under one roof

Piazza Italia has three restaurants on each floor, each presenting a different theme on one of Italian cuisine's main courses.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> floor – fine dining

If you are looking for affordable Italian fine dining, Boscolo is the place to go.

Fine dining is equated with "expensive," but Boscolo wants to widen its client base. Its lunch menu is fixed at a relatively cheap 70 yuan. The meal's first course is a choice between soup of the day or roasted pepper and provolone with mixed salad and balsamic dressing.

There are four choices for the main dish: margherita pizza, risotto with Gorgonzola zucchini, papardelle with wild board ragu or chicken Milanese.

Italian ice cream is the dessert.



Italian-style dumpling, 90 yuan, and Tiramisu, 55 yuan

## 2<sup>nd</sup> floor – home-made pastas

On the next floor is Tutto Pasta, an Italian restaurant that serves various types of hand-made pastas. The restaurant recommends its lasagna alla Bolognese (55 yuan) and tortellini in brodo (35 yuan), filled, ring-shaped pasta in chicken consomme.

There is also the gnocchi in light walnut and Grana Padano cheese sauce (65 yuan), and veal and spinach agnolotto (55 yuan), filled, semicircular pasta in a light sauce.

If you are looking for a meat dish, try the filet mignon (100 yuan) or polenta with sausages and pork rib (55 yuan). Side dishes, which cost 30 yuan each, include sautéed string beans with garlic, cherry tomatoes and potato puree.

Tutto's thin-crust pizza is also not to miss. Try its piazza Italia al S. Daniele e Granda (110 yuan) with mozzarella, prosciutto ham, Granda padano and basilica.



Roasted pork loin, 60 yuan



Lasagna, 55 yuan

Caffe Torino, 28 yuan



Special pizza, 110 yuan

Photos provided by Piazza Italia

## 1<sup>st</sup> floor – coffee, pizza, ice cream

Many coffee lovers say you can never go wrong with a cup of latte: no matter how poorly the coffee is brewed, the milk can mask its bad flavor. But to enjoy espresso, you need to go to an Italian coffee shop.

Pausa Cafe, an Italian espresso bar on the first floor of Piazza Italia, serves distinctive coffees. Its star brew is caffe Torina (28 yuan), Italian espresso with hazelnut syrup, whipped cream and ground hazelnut. A cup of espresso costs 18 yuan; a latte macchiato 25 yuan.

On the same floor is Italian Way, which sells imported coffee beans, fruit juices, snacks and candies. Customers can also grab from its deli counter snacks such as stuffed olives, salads and cheeses.

A few doors away is Dolce e Salato, a restaurant popular among office workers and neighboring residents for its pizzas (34 yuan a slice) and ice cream (15 yuan a scoop).

It also serves more inexpensive food, like medium size Kono pizza at 10 yuan and other pizzas or sandwiches starting at 15 yuan.

### Piazza Italia

**Where:** Building 18, China Central Place Apartments, 89 Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang District

**Open:** 7 am – 2 pm

**Tel:** 5300 8080

For the coming Mid-Autumn Festival, Piazza Italia has prepared special moon cakes (25 yuan each) using Italian recipes that include prosciutto ham, fresh shrimps and scallops.



# Modern dance's affair with Chinese opera

By He Jianwei

What do you get when you bring together modern dance and Chinese opera in one performance? "The audience may ask, What's wrong with the dance?, but the dancers would have given the audience a very big surprise," said Ou Jianping, a dance critic of *One Table N Chairs*, a production of the BeijingDance/LDTX troupe.

The performance begins with the dancers, dressed in trendy metallic costumes, swarming the stage, engulfed in loud, Chinese opera music.

Choreographed by Chinese modern dance pioneer Willy Tsao, BeijingDance/LDTX deputy artistic director Li Hanzhong and veteran dancer Ma Bo, the performance embodies the spirit of Chinese opera and at the same time subverts its conventional form and content.

Chinese opera, which goes back 300 years, has become an extremely precise and yet abstract artistic language. It involves elaborate costumes and dramatic facial makeup, but its set consists of only a table and



two chairs.

Its combination of complex content with simple form finds a parallel in modern dance, which seeks to express complex ideas through simple body movements. In *One Table*, the dance takes place between a table and two chairs.

Chinese opera forms part of the collective memory and experience of native audiences: a musical passage is associated

with the emotional impact of a certain scene, while the characters, costumes, props and acting methods represent cultural elements.

*One Table* breaks these rules and sets free the audience's imagination; the audience gets to appreciate the various possibilities of dance inspired by a traditional art form.

The performance is divided into nine scenes – representing

various situations in life – inspired by operas in different parts of the country. China has an estimated 100 types of operas, each with its unique singing and acting style. The nine most distinctive opera types and their highlights were adapted in *One Table* to show a kaleidoscope of feelings.

The dance also includes five transitions, which attempt to deconstruct the performance styles of opera actors. Their body movements fall under five categories: hands, eyes, body, head and legs, each with its own intricate and precise routine.

*One Table N Chairs* was created in 2000 and has since become one of BeijingDance/LDTX's masterpieces.

## One Table N Chairs

Where: Haidian Theater, 28 Zhongguancun Dajie, Haidian District

When: September 25, 7:30 pm  
Admission: 100 yuan; 50 yuan for students

Tel: 6404 8888; 6406 9999

## Upcoming

### Exhibition

#### Getting to Know You Again – Qin Jin Solo Exhibition

Where: Magician Space, 798 Art District, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang District  
When: Until November 11, daily except Monday, 10:30 am – 6:30 pm  
Tel: 8459 9635

## Stage in October

### Concert

#### Rundfunk Blasorchester Leipzig

Where: Forbidden City Music Hall (inside Zhongshan Park), 4 Zhonghua Lu, Dongcheng District

When: October 4, 7:30 pm

Admission: 50-580 yuan

Tel: 6559 8306

#### The Vienna Boys Choir Asia Tour 2009

Where: Forbidden City Music Hall (inside Zhongshan Park), 4 Zhonghua Lu, Dongcheng District

When: October 10-11, 7:30 pm

Admission: 180-680 yuan

Tel: 6559 8306

#### Strings and Keyboard Collective – Chamber Music II

Where: Beijing Concert Hall,

1 Bei Xinhua Jie, Xicheng District

When: October 14, 7:30 pm

Admission: 50-150 yuan

Tel: 5166 1145

#### Sounds of Finland – Midori Meets Sibelius

Where: Beijing Concert Hall,

1 Bei Xinhua Jie, Xicheng District

When: October 16, 7:30 pm

Admission: 50-150 yuan

Tel: 5166 1145

#### Sounds of Africa – Boys Choir of Kenya

Where: Poly Theater, 14

Dongzhimen Nan Dajie,

Dongcheng District

When: October 25, 7:30 pm

Admission: 50-150 yuan

Tel: 6551 8058

### Dance

#### San Francisco Ballet China Tour 2009

Where: Poly Theater, 14

Dongzhimen Nan Dajie,

Dongcheng District

When: October 1-3, 7:30 pm

Admission: 180-1,680 yuan

Tel: 6551 8058

#### The Taming of the Shrew by the Stuttgart Ballet

Where: Opera House of the

National Center for the Perform-

ing Arts, 2 Xi Chang'an Jie,

Xicheng District

When: October 9-11, 7:30 pm

Admission: 120-800 yuan

Tel: 6655 0000

### Opera

#### Dragon and Phoenix – Peking Opera

Where: Chang'an Theater, 7

Jianguomen Nei Dajie,

Dongcheng District

When: October 16, 7:30 pm

Admission: 100-980 yuan

Tel: 6510 1155

### Xishi

Where: Opera House of the

National Center for the Perform-

ing Arts, 2 Xi Chang'an Jie,

Xicheng District

When: October 28 – Novem-

ber 5, 7:30 pm

Admission: 80-880 yuan

Tel: 6655 0000

(By Jackie Zhang)

## 5 Friday, September 18

### Exhibition Getting to Know You Again – Qin Jin Solo Exhibition

Where: Magician Space, 798 Art District, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang District

When: Until November 11, daily except Monday, 10:30 am – 6:30 pm

Tel: 8459 9635



### Traces – Liu Xiaodong Solo Exhibition

Where: Beijing Angle Modern Art, 4/F Building 1,

China View (Zhongguo Hongjie), A2 Gongti Dong Lu, Chaoyang District

When: Until October 29, except weekends, 2-8 pm

Tel: 6561 8327

### Movie

#### Breaking the Waves

Where: Lele Bar, Dingfuzhuang (50 meters east of Communication University of China's north gate), Chaoyang Lu, Chaoyang District

When: 7 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 6576 5987

### Nightlife

#### DJ Steve Aoki and Diplo

Where: Tango Club, 79 Hepingli Xi Jie (South of Ditan Park), Dongcheng District

When: 10 pm

Admission: 100 yuan

Tel: 6426 4436

#### Yugongyishan's 5th Anniversary

Where: Yugongyishan, 3-2 Zhangzizhong Lu, Dongcheng District

When: 9 pm

Admission: 50 yuan

Tel: 6404 2711

## 6 Saturday, September 19

### Exhibition 2009 Beijing 798 Art Festival

This 37-day festival at 798 Art District will open with a bang: events include a young artists' promotional exhibition, Macao Week, a retrospective exhibition of Fu Xinmin's modern sculptures, a concert and a Goethe party.

Where: 798 Art District, 4 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang District

When: Until October 25, daily except Monday, 10 am – 6 pm

#### Meaningless – Yang Dawei Solo Exhibition

Where: TH Photo Gallery, Nali Garden, 81 Sanlitun Bei Jie, Chaoyang District

When: Until September 30, daily except Monday, 10 am – 7 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 15910633971

### Movie

#### Love on Lushan Mountain

Where: Three Shadows Pho-

tography Art Center, 155 Caochangdi, Chaoyang District

When: 7:30 pm

Admission: free

Tel: 6432 2663

### Nightlife



### Blues Night

Where: 2 Kolegas, 21 Liangmaqiao Lu (inside the Fenghuayuan drive-in cinema), Chaoyang District

When: 10 pm

Admission: 50 yuan

Tel: 6436 8998

#### Three Women Vocals in Early Autumn

Where: D-22, 242 Chengfu Lu, Haidian District

When: 9 pm

Admission: 50 yuan; 20 yuan for students

Tel: 6265 3177

## 7 Sunday, September 20

### Exhibition Kei Imazu Solo Exhibition

Where: Noda Contemporary Beijing, Caochangdi, Cuigezhuang, Chaoyang District

When: Until November 15, daily except Monday, 10:30 am – 6:30 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 5127 3187

### This Will Do Too

Where: C5Art Gallery, Build-



ing F, 5 Xiwu Jie, Sanlitun, Chaoyang District

When: Until October 18, daily except Monday, 10 am – 7 pm

Admission: Free  
Tel: 6460 3951

### Movie

#### Bicentennial Man

Where: Club 3, 43 Bei Sanhuan Xi Lu, Haidian District

When: 2 pm

Admission: 20 yuan (includes soft drink)

Tel: 8211 5288

### Nightlife

#### Spirit of Kazakh

Where: Jianghu Bar, 7 Dongmianhua Hutong, Dongcheng

District

When: 8:30 pm

Admission: 40 yuan; 30 yuan for students

Tel: 6401 4611

#### Zhang Ming and His Friends

Where: Weibozhiyan Club, Room 2308, 3/F North Building, SOHO Shangdu, 8 Dongdaqiao Lu, Chaoyang District

When: 9 pm

Admission: 40 yuan

Tel: 5900 0969

(By He Jianwei)



# Keeping your memory sharp

By Venus Lee

A report published in May in a University of Virginia academic journal, *Neurobiology of Aging*, contained a potentially unsettling conclusion for young people: mental powers peak at age 22 and begin to decline from age 27.

Now there is good news. A recent study shows coffee can help treat or stave off memory loss, a key symptom of Alzheimer's disease, in addition to keeping you from falling asleep at your desk.

## Caffeine reduces memory loss

In the study, lab mice bred to develop symptoms of Alzheimer's disease were given 500 milligrams of caffeine (equivalent to five cups of regular coffee) in their daily drinking water once they started developing memory problems at age 18 to 19 months, about age 70 in human years.

After two months, the mice that drank the caffeinated water performed much better on tests of memory and thinking skills, to the level of normal mice of the same age. Those given plain water continued to do poorly on these tests. The study also showed that the brains of the caffeine-

ated mice experienced a nearly 50 percent reduction in the level of beta-amyloid.

The researchers also looked at long-term caffeine treatment in normal mice. With 10 months of caffeine treatment, there was no improvement in memory and thinking skills.

The research was published in the *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease*. The chief researcher, Gary Arendash, PhD, a neuroscientist at the University of South Florida, said his team planned to start human trials to see whether caffeine can benefit people with early signs of Alzheimer's disease.

## Causes of memory loss

Many factors are regarded as causes of memory loss. Some common causes include old age, trauma, smoking, alcohol abuse and medical conditions such as Alzheimer's disease, said Liu Xianzeng, associate chief physician of the neurology department at the People's Hospital of Peking University.

### 1. Depression and stress

"The most frequent cause is depression," Liu said. When this occurs, most of the mental processes have difficulty working. Memory loss tends to become worse if depression is not treated. When people get over the events that cause stress, their memory becomes effective again.

Working under stress is also a cause of

memory loss, as your mind has too many things to cope with. It is more difficult to recall or learn something when you are feeling stressed, tired, anxious or angry. "You will find that you are able to remember more easily when your mind is alert and well-rested. This allows you to pay greater attention and commit more to memory," he said.

If a pregnant woman experiences stress, the child may face learning difficulties and the part of the brain related to memory may shrink, Liu said.

### 2. Amnesia

Amnesia means partial or total memory loss. Brain damage through physical trauma or disease is a common cause of amnesia.

The period and severity of memory loss is related to the degree of injury.

### 3. Alzheimer's disease

Alzheimer's disease, also known as senile dementia, is among the most frequent causes of memory loss. It is characterized by various degrees of memory loss, depending on the stage. While at the beginning the person frequently has difficulty recalling names, at the end stages it becomes hard to distinguish between family members. Alzheimer's disease is related to age, as most people who contract this disease are around 60 years old.

### 4. High blood pressure

A new study published in the August issue of *Neurol-*

*ogy* shows that high blood pressure may also cause memory problems, even in middle-aged people. Researchers said higher diastolic readings signal that the smaller arteries in the brain are weakening, which can result in subtle brain damage.

### 5. Medication

Sometimes, memory loss is induced by medication or appears as a side effect of some drugs. Barbiturates or benzodiazepines frequently cause memory loss. In this situation, in order to regain one's memory it is very important to quit that medication.

CFP Photo

## Strategies for prevention

Memory loss may begin innocently, like forgetting your house keys or being unable to remember someone's name. Fortunately, memory loss is not inevitable and can be prevented.

### 1. Regular exercise

Aerobic exercise can get more oxygen to your brain, enhance the effects of helpful brain chemicals and protect brain cells, increase blood flow, encourage the formation of new synapses and reverse some age-related decline in brain volume. It also reduces the risk for disorders that lead to memory loss, such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease. "If exercise were a pill, it would be the most expensive drug on the market," Liu said.

### 2. Healthy diet

Diet directly affects the health of your body, and also your brain. A healthy diet is one that includes fresh fruits and vegetables, is low in trans fats and saturated fats, and high in protein attained mostly from non-animal sources. It should have the right amounts of complex carbohydrates and "good" fats, like omega-3 fatty acids.

In addition, a high-potency multivitamin should be taken daily. And supplements of antioxidants and memory-enhancing vitamins and nutrients, like vitamins C and E, coenzyme Q10, acetyl-L-carnitine, ginkgo biloba and phosphatidyl serine, may be beneficial as well, the doctor said.

### 3. Managing stress

Stress management is an important part of preventing memory loss. Chronic stress has been shown to have an adverse effect on brain health and memory performance. It can contribute to depression and anxiety disorders, which also inter-

fere with normal memory function.

"You can reduce stress in your life by preparing a schedule ahead of time, balancing work and leisure activities, and setting realistic expectations and goals. Meditation, yoga and deep breathing exercises are all excellent ways of reducing stress and providing relaxation," Liu said.

### 4. Good sleep and enough of it

Sleep is necessary for memory consolidation. Sleep disorders like insomnia and sleep apnea leave you tired and unable to concentrate during the day.

### 5. Mental exercise

Just as physical exercise can make and keep your body stronger, mental exercise can make your brain work better and lower the risk of mental decline. "Spending at least 20 minutes three times a week doing mental exercise will stimulate your brain, helping to keep it functioning as it should through the years, and also sharpen your cognitive skills," the doctor said.

You can exercise your brain in many ways, including playing stimulating board games, doing crossword puzzles, playing Scrabble, reading a book, learning a new song or playing a musical instrument.

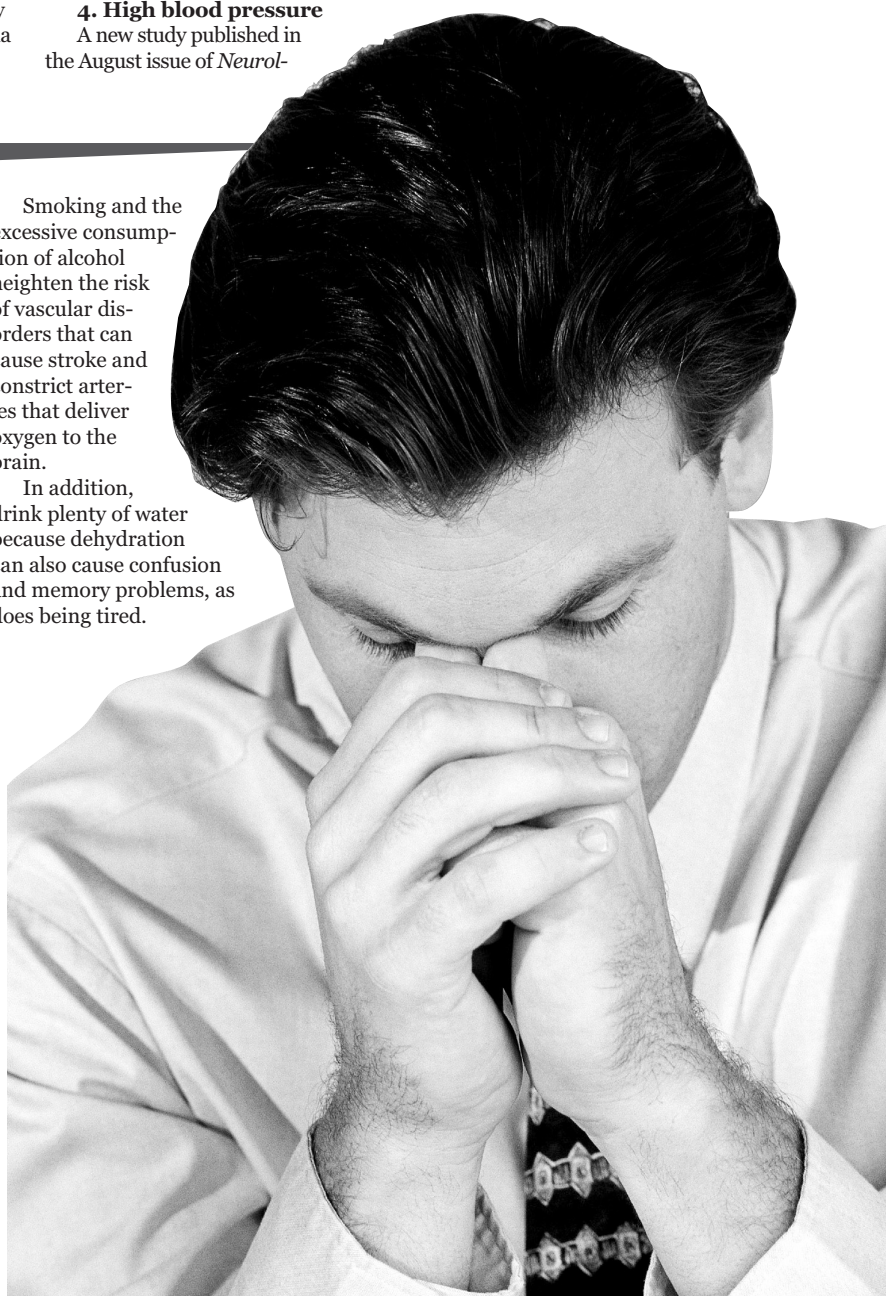
### 6. Developing and maintaining social relationships

People who do not have social contact with family and friends are at higher risk for memory problems than people who have strong social ties. Social interaction helps brain function in several ways: it often involves activity that challenges the mind, and it helps ward off stress and depression. So being with other people will help keep you sharp.

### 7. No smoking and alcohol

Smoking and the excessive consumption of alcohol heighten the risk of vascular disorders that can cause stroke and constrict arteries that deliver oxygen to the brain.

In addition, drink plenty of water because dehydration can also cause confusion and memory problems, as does being tired.



Editor: Li Zhixin Designer: Deng Ning



# Treasure house of ancient Buddhism

## A visit to Yunju Temple and Shijing Mountain

By Zhang Dongya

Yunju Temple, known as China's treasure house of ancient Buddhist culture, last week began rebuilding its South Pagoda, constructed during the Liao Dynasty (907-1125) and destroyed in 1942. The repair work is expected to take a year and a half, after which the temple's North and South pagodas will again stand facing each other.

Besides its pagodas, Yunju is famous for stone slabs inscribed with Buddhist scriptures known as tripitaka. The temple, and nearby Shijing Mountain, attracts visitors who are interested in Buddhist culture.

### Buddhist scriptures and ancient pagodas

Yunju Temple, located in Fangshan District, was built between the late Sui (581-618) and the early Tang (618-907) dynasties as a storage place for scriptures etched into stone slabs by a monk named Jingwan.

The original temple was divided into an upper and lower section. The upper halls were constructed on Shijing Mountain and only ruins remain; the lower halls comprise the present-day temple.

Yunju's architecture is distinctive on two points: it has six halls, one constructed on top of the other, making it six stories high; and all the halls face east, unlike many traditional structures that face south. Most of the halls were destroyed by Japanese troops during the Sino-Japanese War (1937-1945) and were rebuilt beginning in the 1980s.

During the Liao and Jin (1115-1234) dynasties, Yunju was called Shijing Temple, referring to its stone inscriptions. There are 14,278 stone slabs containing 1,122 Buddhist scriptures in 3,572 volumes. They make up the largest collection of stone-etched tripitaka in China.

Work on the stone slabs began in 605, in the Sui Dynasty. It continued for a millennium, spanning the next five dynasties – the Tang, Liao, Jin, Yuan (1206-1368) and Ming (1368-1644).

The scriptures provide important material for research into China's ancient politics, economy, culture and arts, especially the history of Buddhism and the Buddhist classics. They are the best compilation of various versions of the tripitaka and include passages not found in any other version of Buddhist scripture.

Their skillful etching and beautiful calligraphy also make them culturally significant. The temple also houses scriptures on wood and paper.

The temple's other treasures are its brick pagodas dating from the Tang and Liao dynasties. There are seven Tang and five Liao pagodas, all of them well preserved.

The North and South pagodas, both built during Liao, stand facing each other. The North Pagoda has a unique shape: its upper part resembles a bell and its middle part a drum.

The South Pagoda, which is connected to an underground cave for storing scripture, was destroyed by Japanese forces in 1942. This month, reconstruction began, but it will remain open to visitors.

Continued on page 21...



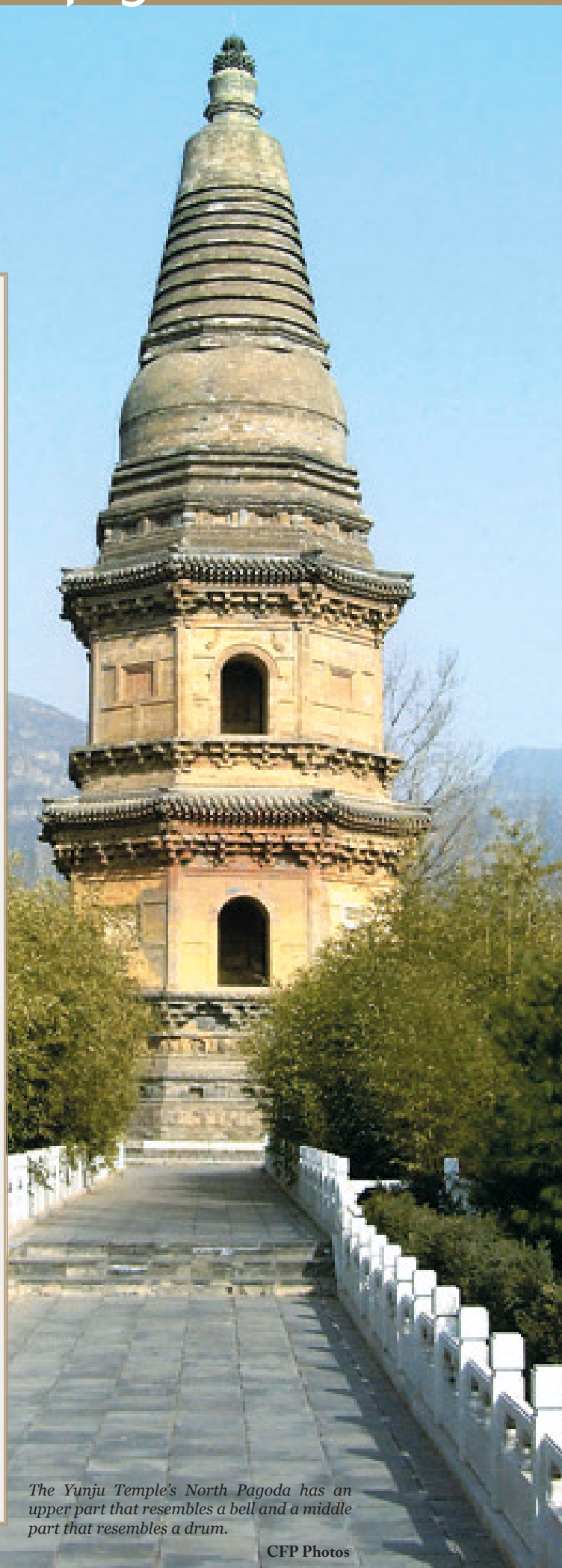
A thousand-hand guanyin, or the Bodhisattva, in Yunju Temple



Yunju Temple's South Pagoda, destroyed by Japanese troops in 1942, starts reconstruction this month.



Yunju Temple has as many as 14,278 stone-slab inscriptions, which make up the largest collection of stone-etched tripitaka in China.



The Yunju Temple's North Pagoda has an upper part that resembles a bell and a middle part that resembles a drum.

CFP Photos



... continued from page 20

## Stone-slab scriptures and Buddhist relics

Shijing Mountain, located across Yunju Temple, is also known as Little Western Paradise for the relics of Gautama Buddha unearthed there and nine caves housing stone slabs with Buddhist scriptures.

The mountain looks like a huge rock, with white rocks scattered around. On its face have been chiseled thousands of steps, 108 of which are said to represent the "108 vices" in Buddhism. Legend says people who walk up the 108 stone stairs will overcome these vices. The terrain also attracts many hikers.

Of Shijing's nine caves that contain scriptures on stone slabs, only Leiyin Cave is open to the public. It has 146 of these stone slabs and four stone pillars carved with 1,056 Buddhist images, which earned the cave the nickname Qianfo, or "thousands of Buddhas." Each image is labeled. Some images, however, were destroyed prior to 1949, when the site was not properly managed.

The off-limits caves contain a total of 4,196 etched stone slabs.

At Leiyin Cave's center is a stone marker, indicating where bones of Gautama Buddha were discovered in 1981. In June the two bone pieces, now stored in the Capital Museum, were brought back to Yunju Temple for a short-term exhibit. This drew a large number of Buddhists and tourists who had long wanted to see the relics.

Shijing Mountain has other historical relics, such as an ancient stone well and steles dating from the Sui and Tang dynasties.

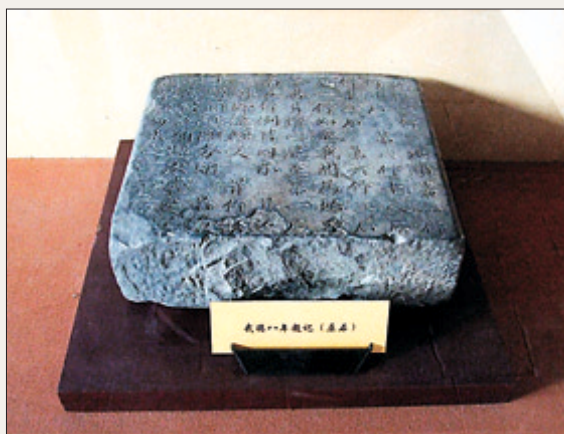
The mountain's cypresses, though undersized, have a distinguished history: some that have sprouted from rocks are a thousand years old.

Among the cypresses is a noticeable pair called "spouse cypresses." They stand beside each other, one taller than the other, resembling a romantic couple.

From the peak of Shijing, visitors have a bird's-eye view of the surrounding landscape. At the peak are also numerous colorful flags flapping in the wind, a cheerful sight to greet tourists.



Paper scripture



Stone scripture



There are nine caves in Shijing Mountain that contain scriptures on stone slabs, but only Leiyin Cave is open to the public.

## Travel information

### Yunju Temple

Open: 8:30 am – 5 pm  
Admission: 40 yuan; 20 yuan for students, the disabled and senior citizens

Tel: 6138 9612

### Shijing Mountain Scenic Area

Open: 8 am – 5 pm  
Admission: 15 yuan; 8 yuan for students, the disabled and senior citizens

Tel: 6138 9803

### Getting there

Drive along Jingshi Expressway, then take Liulihe Exit. You will pass through Hancunhe and Changgou before reaching the foot of Shijing Mountain. Alternatively, visitors can take Bus 917 to Liangxiang stop, then transfer to bus 12, 19 or 31 to reach Yunju Temple.

### Food

There are some small restaurants at the foot of Shijing. In Yunju, the temple's restaurant sells only vegetarian food. It serves Yunju Red, a wine made from ginkgo leaves, persimmon leaves, dates and Chinese Wolfberry, which is said to promote health. The restaurant can seat a hundred people, and they welcome big groups. For reservations, call 6138 9612.

### Notes

1. The only way up and down Shijing Mountain is through its stone steps. Make sure to wear comfortable socks and shoes with thick soles suitable for hiking.

2. The path up the mountain is littered with thistles and thorns. It is best to wear long-sleeved tops and long pants to prevent scratches.

Yunju Temple and nearby Shijing Mountain attract visitors wanting to see China's treasure house of ancient Buddhist culture.

CFP Photos



## Dining

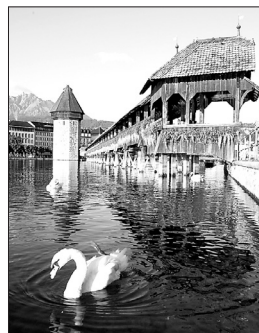
### Eating with Nemo

Dive head first into the freshest seafood, including a sumptuous array of king crabs, freshly shucked oysters, lobster, caviar, prawns and salmon. Savor the full flavor of your fresh catch with a range of home-made condiments or have it steamed, fried or roasted to your taste at one of the live cooking stations.

Where: Elements, Hilton Beijing, 1 Dongfang Lu, Chaoyang District  
When: Every Friday, 6-10 pm

Cost: 228 yuan, including coffee and tea; 288 yuan, including coffee, tea and local draft beer; additional 120 yuan for wine; plus 15 percent surcharge

Tel: 5865 5020



### Switzerland – Lucerne Gourmet and Wine Festival

Grand Millennium Beijing CBD International Cuisine together with Switzerland – Lucerne presents Lucerne Gourmet and Wine Festival. Indulge in a new dining experience by tasting the authentic flavors of Switzerland at the hotel's daily lunch and dinner buffet.

Where: Grand Millennium Beijing, 7 Dongsanhuan Zhong Lu, Chaoyang District

When: Until September 27, Mondays – Sundays (except Sunday brunch)

Cost: 126 yuan (lunch buffet), 176 yuan (dinner buffet), including one glass of soft drink, coffee or tea

Tel: 6530 9383

### Crab season

Crab season is coming. At Swissotel Beijing, there is no crab season without the famous hairy crab – tender, roe-rich and juicy, flown in daily from Yangcheng Lake. Enjoy a unique, modern way of preparing delicious crab dishes, such as freshwater crab, baked crab with black pepper sauce, baked crab with curry sauce, steamed crab seasoned with garlic and salty egg on glutinous rice served in bamboo steamer. You cannot afford to miss them.

Where: Happy Valley, Swissotel Beijing, 2 Chaoyangmen Bei Dajie, Chaoyang District  
Tel: 6553 2288 ext. 2146 or 2148



### Shanghai food promotion

Enjoy yourself on a gastronomic journey through Shanghai. The guest chefs from the renowned 71-year-old Shanghai Meilongzhen Restaurant are proud to present their signature dishes to you. Choose from an array of authentic Shanghai food that delights your palate, featuring traditional and modern delicacies such as shark's fin with crabmeat, braised crabmeat lion head in soy sauce, and a selection of mouthwatering Shanghai desserts.

Where: the 21st Floor Chinese Restaurant, The Great Wall Sheraton Hotel Beijing, 10 Dongsanhuan Bei Lu, Chaoyang District

When: October 15 – November 15

Tel: 6590 5566 ext. 2295



### Noble court business lunch

The Noble Court business lunch represents incredible value. Its menu features authentic Cantonese dim sum, including steamed shao mai dumplings, seafood and coriander dumpling, barbecued pork puff pastry as well as a daily selection of soups, main courses and desserts, from which guests can order an unlimited selection of items. This menu is available in addition to the extensive à la carte menu, which offers a wide selection of the finest Cantonese dishes

and a wide variety of live seafood.

Where: Grand Hyatt, Beijing Oriental Plaza, 1 Dong Chang'an Jie, Dongcheng District  
When: 11:30 am – 2:30 pm

Cost: 168 yuan

Tel: 8518 1234 ext. 6021 or 6024

## Event

### Shop, chop and hop around Asia

The Village at Sanlitun teams up with Asia Miles to send you on a dream holiday to any destination in Asia. Enter the Golden Passport Lucky Draw for your chance to win the gold prize of 150,000 Asia Miles, redeemable for two round-trip air tickets and three nights in a hotel at your preferred destination. Once you've spent 200 yuan or more in any of the

shops in The Village or enjoyed a delightful taste in the restaurants at The Opposite House, you'll get the chance to win this gold prize or two nights accommodation and dinner at The Opposite House, as well as other great gift packages.

When: September 25 – October 23

Website: thevillage.com.cn

### Hua Fu Ceremony

NE • TIGER, occupying a unique position as a leading Chinese luxury brand, specially trims a store window displaying a Hua Fu (Chinese national dress) collection at Beijing Image Store, located in New Oriental Plaza, aimed at presenting traditional Chinese cul-

ture to the world. To salute the 60th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, NE • TIGER attempts to blend traditional and modern designing ideas, dressing its window show in an original and unique visual angle.

## Hotel

### Olympic experience

#### National Day package

Marco Polo Parkside Beijing is offering you and your family an exclusive package for the National Day period. Stay in the Superior Room and get two complimentary tickets to nearby National Stadium, aka Bird's Nest. Benefits include but are not limited to daily buffet breakfasts, late checkout (6 pm) and shuttle bus transportation from the hotel to the National Stadium.

Where: Marco Polo Parkside, 78 Anli Lu, Chaoyang District

When: September 28 – October 11

Cost: 585 yuan per night, subject to 15 percent surcharge

Tel: 5963 6688

## Apartment

### The Sandalwood

The Sandalwood, Marriott's second executive apartment complex in Beijing, is open and offers residents an unprecedented level of sophisticated luxury. Each apartment has been individually designed by world-renowned interior design consultant Karen Wang. All rooms and common areas offer both wired and wireless Internet access. Apartment facilities include a 24-hour Olympic-size fitness center, heated indoor swimming pool and oversized children's playroom, with a distinctive, private Residents' Lounge with open cooking areas offering Asian and Western breakfasts. It is all designed with the utmost in comfort to enrich a resident's home-away-from-home experience.

Where: The Sandalwood Beijing Marriott Executive Apartments, 23 Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang District

Tel: 8557 8888



## Aviation

### Working up the tiers just got easier

British Airways is offering the opportunity to earn Executive Club tier points to help customers ascend the blue, silver and gold ranks of the airline's loyalty scheme. The changes mean that Silver and Gold Executive Club members will find it simpler to maintain their status and the benefits associated with them, including access to 150 lounges worldwide and British Airways' 675 million yuan Galleries lounge complex at Terminal 5. Customers in Euro Traveler will receive five tier points while those in World Traveler will receive 15 tier points with every booking.

### Singapore Airlines agrees to reschedule A380 delivery

Singapore Airlines and Airbus have agreed on a revised delivery schedule for eight A380 aircraft on order. Under the new schedule, deliveries will take place six to 12 months later than originally planned for the Airline's 12th through the 19th A380. The revised schedule will see the 12th aircraft delivered in October 2010 rather than April 2010, while 19th aircraft will be delivered in January 2012 rather than January 2011.



## Tourism

### Mountain biking in Prespes Lake District

A three-day mountain bike race in cooler September is being hosted in Greece's Prespes Lake District this month. The three-etapes race will pass through the district's eponymous sites, including the village of Nestorio, Mt. Grammos, the Nymfeo site, Amynteo and the Prespes border lakes. One of goals cited by the organizers is to turn the event – open to full-time athletes and amateur cyclists – into an international mountain bike race in 2010. The race begins today from the village of Nestorio with individual time trials.

(By Sun Feng)



## Chinglish story

This column focuses on Chinglish mistakes in our daily life. If you have any experiences to share, send them to Wang Yu at wangyu2008@ynet.com.

# Practice makes perfect ... or imperfect?

By Wang Yu

Since I'm a journalist for an English newspaper, whenever my friends and I sit around a dinner table with foreigners, they always put the pressure on me to make conversation in English.

I talk to the foreign guests to help put them at ease, but I do not chatter endlessly. I'm not afraid of making grammatical mistakes, but when I'm in front of a group of native English speakers, I think twice before I open my mouth.

There are people who will not agree with my style. William Zhang, a photographer who lived in England for a while after college, is always eager to show off his English – language skills. Frankly, I do not think his stay in the UK did much for his English; I think he is just a rich kid who did not know what to do with himself after college, so he went to school overseas. He is lucky he had his talent in photography to fall back on.

Last month, Zhang and I were on a bus to Sanlitun to take pictures of a local rock band. With us was Charles Buckland, a British friend of mine, who wanted an interview with the group.

Zhang only met Buckland that day, but they soon fell into a conversation about life in Britain; I was busy listening to Kasabian's latest album.

As we approached the Sanlitun stop, Buckland began anxiously digging into the pockets of his jeans.

"What are you looking for, mate?" Zhang said.

"I cannot find my ticket. Will he check it?" Buckland said, pointing to the conductor.

"Oh, take it easy, the busboys usually don't ask for your ticket."

"The bus ... yeah, okay, fine," Buckland said, looking relieved.

We got off the bus and Buckland turned to me in a whisper: "Tell him later that a 'busboy' is someone who works in a restaurant, clearing away dirty dishes and setting tables."

To be honest, I had never heard of that word until that day.

Two hours later, the photo shoot and the interview were done. Zhang and I were sprawled on a bench, exhausted. It was one of the hottest, most humid days in August, and the shoot was our second job that day.

"All I want to do now is to find a restroom with an air conditioner and get some sleep," Zhang said.

"They have some in these buildings," Buckland said with a grin, indicating a shopping mall.

Unfortunately, Zhang chose the wrong word again. You can sleep in a "restroom," but would you really want to do that on a toilet seat?



## Blacklist

This is a column of words or phrases commonly misused by Chinese speakers. If you're planning to be an English teacher, reporter or employee of a multinational company, then watch out for this page each week.

### 1. The students, many of who come from the rural areas

**Professor Zhu Shida(ZS):** As we know, in this case "who" should be in the objective case of "who," that is, "whom." Whom refers to the objective case of who – what person or which person. For instance, Whom do you like best? He does not know whom to believe. The girl to whom you spoke is my cousin. However, at the informal conversational level, people do use "who" instead of "whom" in the objective case of the word, like the example we have here. In modern times, people tend to use who instead of whom when it is right to use whom as in the objective case. In E. L. Doctorow's novel *Jolen: A Life*, he uses "who" in place of "whom" to show the girl's lack of education. So, in formal English, we have to strictly stick to the grammatical rule governing the usage of the objective case of who.

### Native speaker Steven Sandor(SS):

This is tricky, because it fails one of the popular rules for remembering whether to use who or whom: replace the word with he or him and see which makes sense. In this case, you would get "he comes from the rural area," which suggests it should be who. Microsoft Word would agree.

However, in this case the "many of whom" is a prepositional phrase in the form of quantifier + of + object. Because it is an object, it requires the objective form whom.

### 2. This move could not only enhance local development, but take care of the children.

**ZS:** Grammatically it seems to be a perfect sentence. The writer handles well the phrase "not only ... but also." However, you feel at any rate there is something missing. It is all right to say: this move could enhance local development. Then how about, "This move takes care of the children"? It makes no sense. How can a move itself take care of the children? If we just add one word, it will make it perfect – that is, the verb "help." This move could not only enhance local development, but also help take care of the children. It means "to help local efforts to take care of the children." So, you see, as small as it is, it has to do with the soundness of your knowledge of English.

**SS:** As suggested, this sentence does read better with the added word "help." However, even without the word it remains understandable.

### 3. Anesthetics jeopardize sperm quality.

**ZS:** Anesthetics, which looks like it is in the plural form, is actually singular. It is a branch of science. Anesthetics is not properly used in this case. It is not this branch of science that jeopardizes sperm quality. It is actually anesthesia that jeopardizes sperm quality. Anesthetic may be an adjective that means "indifferent": She seemed unmoved and anesthetic to his presence. The word evolves into "Anesthetics." Please take note of such words as "aesthetics," "mechanics," "hydraulics," "acoustics." Are they plural or singular? They seem plural but actually are always grammatically treated as singular.

**SS:** Anesthetic is a singular noun for an item capable of causing anesthesia. It is countable, and therefore follows regular English plural formation as anesthetics, which happens to be a homonym for the branch of science. While it is possible to misinterpret this sentence above, there is nothing wrong with it.

## Chinglish on the way

This column aims to identify Chinglish in public areas. If you see any Chinglish signs, please send a picture of it to wangyu2008@ynet.com together with your name and address.

# Not to drink driving

By Tiffany Tan

This looks like something that could have been written by someone who had too much to drink. Ironically, the photo was taken by one of our reporters after he had more than a few bottles of beer. "I remembered work even though I was drunk," he said with pride when he showed me the picture.

It is an anti-drunk-driving sign that aims for easy recall through a clever play of words and rhythm. "Do not drink if you are driving; if you drink, do not drive," it says. The smooth delivery, however, gets lost in translation; it sounds more like someone practicing to deliver a sentence correctly.

This is one of the most amusing and endearing Chinglish signs I have ever encountered. Even an American co-worker who has been in China for five years and is no longer easily impressed by such signs had to laugh at this classic.



Photo by Wang Yu



They love me  
for what I'm not...

# The Damned United (2009)

## Movie of the Week

If you want to know the dark side of being a soccer coach in one of the top leagues in the world, this film offers you an excellent inside story.

Adapted from the novel of the same name by David Peace, the film goes a long way toward rectifying soccer's historically poor depiction at the cinema. A brilliant performance from Martin Sheen as Brian Clough and a faithful, intelligent screenplay by Peter Morgan combine to deliver a convincing tale.

Crucially, this is not a film just about soccer. It uses soccer as a framework for ambition, greed, success, failure, friendship and love.

## Synopsis

Set in 1960s and 70s England, *The Damned United* tells the confrontational and darkly humorous story of Clough's doomed 44-day tenure as manager of the reigning champions of English soccer, Leeds United.

Previously managed by his bitter rival, Don Revie, and on the back of its most successful period ever as a soccer club, Leeds had an aggressive and cynical style of soccer, which was anathema to the principled yet flamboyant Clough, who had achieved astonishing success as manager of Hartlepool and Derby County, where he built teams in his own vision with trusty lieutenant Peter Taylor.

Taking the Leeds job without Taylor by his side, with a changing room full of Revie's boys, Clough undergoes an unheralded exhibition of belligerence and brilliance over 44 days.

## Vocabulary

1. **be vocal in the criticism:** strongly condemn
2. **show alacrity to:** do something with eagerness
3. **sell someone short:** perform or give something at a lower standard or price than its true value
4. **in place:** the appropriate or usual position or normal way of things
5. **dustbin:** British term for "trash can"
6. **fit for every game:** ready to play (not suspended for) every game
7. **wrap around:** to surround all sides (here it means to injure)

(By Wang Yu)

## Scene 1

(Before he registers with the club, Clough accepts an interview with Austin Mitchell, host of Yorkshire Television.)

**Mitchell (M):** We welcome Brian Clough, who starts his job as manager of Leeds United ... taking over for Don Revie, the most successful manager in club history, under whom Leeds won everything.

**Clough (C):** Not quite everything. Not won the European Cup.

**M:** But pretty much everything else. Daunted?

**C:** Daunted? Not at all, Austin. Looking forward to it.

**M:** The biggest challenge of your life and you'll be without Peter Taylor for the first time, a lifelong professional colleague.

**C:** Yes, Pete's at Brighton now. He had the opportunity to come with me. But Brighton was his choice, Leeds was mine.

**M:** A surprising choice, some might say, because you've been very vocal in your criticism (1) of them over the years.

**C:** I have.

**M:** You've accused the players of dirty

tactics, cheating, dissent, foul play. You've called Norman Hunter Norman "Bites Yer Legs" Hunter. Peter Lorimer falls when no one touches him.

**C:** And I was right.

**M:** But I'm curious. Why do you now show such alacrity to (2) joining them after such vituperative criticism of them for so long?

**C:** Goodness. It will take me half an hour to explain all those words for a start. Football is a beautiful game, Austin. It needs to be played beautifully. I think Leeds have sold themselves short (3). They've been champions, but they've not been good champions, in the sense of wearing the crown well. They've not been loved. But then, you know, that's hardly surprising given the type of operation that's been in place (4) there.

**M:** "That type of operation"? I presume you're referring to Don Revie, who has long been regarded as a father figure in Leeds. Now you're coming in as the outsider, the enemy, even, after all the things you've said in public. Coming in and taking over as a stepfather. Wouldn't you expect some degree

of resentment to this?

**C:** I would accept and expect a strangeness initially. Perfectly normal. But it won't be long before they realize I'm a fair man, a kind man. I'm a warm man. And maybe under me they can experience what it's like to be in a happy family after all.

**M:** But how can you be sure they weren't happy with Don all along?

**C:** Well, they wouldn't have played football that way if they were happy.

## Scene 2

(Clough talks to his team, Leeds United, for the first time.)

**C:** Well, I might as well tell you now. You lot may all be internationals and have won all the domestic honors there are won under Don Revie. But as far as I'm concerned, the first thing you can do for me is to chuck all your medals and all your caps and all your pots and pans into the biggest dustbin (5) you can find. Because you've never won any of them fairly. You've done it all by bloody cheating.

Mr. William Bremner, you're the cap-

tain and a good one. But you're no good to the team and no good to me if you're suspended. I want you fit for every game (6). And I want good, clean, attractive football from my captain, starting next week at the Charity Shield.

And you, Irish man. God gave you skill, intelligence and the best passing ability in the game. What God did not give you was six studs to wrap around (7) another player's knee.

Now, things are gonna be a little different around here without Don. Might feel strange at first. Might pinch a little like a new pair of shoes. But if you want your grandchildren to remember you as being something other than the dirty buggers you once were, if you wanna be loved as real champions, worthy champions, you're gonna have to work and improve and change.

Now, let's start off by playing some seven-a-sides.

**Bremner:** Mr. Revie never made us do that.

**C:** Well, I'm not Mr. Revie. From now on, I don't wanna hear that name again ever.

